

W O R O N I

Issue 10

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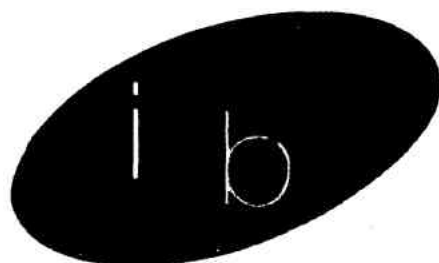
November 2003



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WORONI

Special Edition

10 Bush...

Adam Brodie-McKenzie gives his take on the Bush visit to our fair and prosperous city

Woroni Indulges 17

Read about Woroni 2003

26 Sun, Sex and Sounds

Wanna get jiggy & hit the beach...check out Summer Fests!

Woroni's Best of 2003 22

What was good? What was shit? Only Woroni knows for sure.

30 Beer Me

Check out the best boutique beers. You know you want to...

Lamb 32

Thom Mackey enjoys a pre-summer roast

34 Powderfinger

They beat Delta...so we're printing their shite

the usual:

Letters 6

Opinion 8

News 12

SA Reports 15

Woroni Is...

Woroni Two
Thousand and
Three
Issue Ten
Volume Fifty-
Five
the "Woroni Is Dead - Long
Live Woroni" issue

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Nich Farrelly, Room O'Doom, November 2003

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Nich Farrelly and others...

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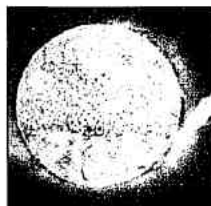
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Love and kisses: Michael and George at Spot Press for making life incredibly easy for us at their own expense, thanks guys; Stephen Still for all his work throughout the year; Michelle McWilliam, Bronwyn Evans, and Tamara Russell, the SA's built-in and indispensable support network; Gods Cafe, Izumi & The Vietnam Restaurant for their delicious catering support; Exams for supplying the extra level of stress needed to kick us into Woroni mode; Chilley Library for being open oh-so-long, even on Sunday nights; ANU Facilities & Services for letting us borrow the Pugmobile; all you guys & gals (or others) for reading our gear!

Kick in the ass: Cold nights without heating in the office; Menzies Library for having the most impractical opening hours imaginable; each & every psycho who has barged into our office and abused, threatened and yelled at us this year (there's been about 7); Girls at Law Ball table.

...loving our special pretty edition! The gloss paper, the compact size, the lifestyleness of it all, it's just beautiful! Our patronising pastels and striking shades come through in all their sickening glory. To think you can expect this every time next year! Maybe with less glorious colour, though. And a bit more taste in the layout. And a bit less blatant self-indulgence, at least in the first 9 issues...



...kind of offended at the sun for farting in our general direction, in a seriously big way. The burst

was so strong that Magnetic North moved 5 degrees as the magical cosmic rays blew past us - just be glad humans can't smell electromagnetic radiation.



...happy that kittens won't get us sued.



...happy that protest season has made a come back. Last week lots of the old-schoolers came out to protest against University "reform". Then lots of non-Canberra imports gave President Bush a welcome. So much yelling, so many middle fingers!

...looking forward to long summer nights, rides around the lake and a chance to get outside. Students love summer and we're no different. It will be seriously cool to have a few months doing something away from our Macintoshes.

...welcoming the newest addition to the SA, Little Joshua McWilliam, born last week. No photo though - he's already charmingly modest!

Woroni is the official magazine of the ANU Students' Association. Woroni aims to provide a snapshot of campus and student activities, ideas and interests. Because of this, some articles may contain coarse language and sexual or otherwise adult themes. We love to hear from members of the University community and general public. So please feel welcome to send us your letters and articles. Everybody can 'ave a go... The views and opinions communicated in this magazine are not necessarily those of the editors or anyone in the Students' Association. Woroni can be contacted on (02) 6248 7127 by phone, (02) 6125 3967 by fax, or by email at woroni_articles@student.anu.edu.au

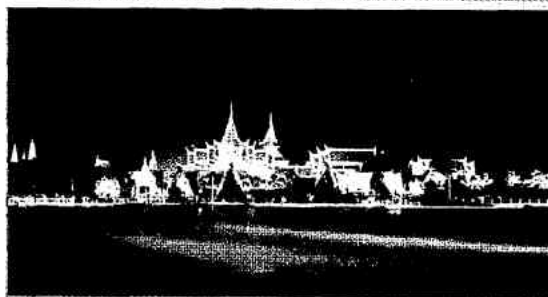
...thankful that after much legal and editorial angst we have come through the year relatively unscathed by the world of censors and regulators. There are no new restrictions on what Woroni can and cannot print. Attempts to impose more power in the hand of student politicians have, again, been thwarted. One of these days having an independent Woroni editorial team that can print when and how it likes will be very important. All future Woroni editors and contributors: don't let them take away (y)our "responsibility" to print!



...slightly upset that some of the ANU's finest Leftist flag-bearers will be hanging up their microphones for good. The "Class of 2003" will be long remembered for its passion - "No, you can't come to our meeting!"



...encouraging y'all to have a go at this censorship find-a-word. We've included all the words that have been black-boxed or changed, and a few clues as to what they were referring to. First one to send in a completed find-a-word wins something totally cool, including (but not limited to) CDs, books and Passion Pop. Happy hunting!



...genuinely impressed that this year's APEC was more than silly shirts and smug grins. Bangkok put on quite the show. Check these photos from the Chao Phraya River supplied by our Bangkok office. Thanks guys!

...hating the cricket score results in the Rugby Union. No kidding, the Marist Ist XV 1998 could make a better fist of World Cup glory than some of the teams prancing around out there.



...loving the way that some people just have to look at the camera. Say Cheese!



...wishing you a happy summer break. Get through those exams and don't stress the little things. Enjoy the summer!



Your Say

Woroni answers your letters. Remember, your opinions are important to us.

Tips for modern letter-writing

Dear Woroni,
Regarding Leslie's attack on Ben Sakker Kelly and his statement that Ben's religion is not relevant to student politics and neither is his stance on middle eastern affairs. What you fail to realise Leslie, is that Ben's religion is relevant to him. It is entirely appropriate for Ben to mention what is a core facet of his being. Ben obviously believes that candidate statements should give the reader some indication of where the candidate stands on issues, and some idea of who he is as a person. Although Ben appears to be in the minority considering the sound and fury of ER's statements and the manufactured cliché of Momentum Nexus's sound bites.

Furthermore, unlike most, Ben outlined his main concern with intolerance on campus. It is Ben's belief that the far left on campus into anti-Semitism often transforms legitimate criticism of Israel. So after consulting with many groups (including the Muslim students society), Ben (who is president of the Jewish students society), formulated a policy to combat all forms of intolerance on campus which he contributed to the 'Students first' platform.

Leslie, had you taken Ben's statement in the entirety of the context instead of merely scanning for the words 'Jew' and 'Israel' you would understand that Ben was agreeing with you that international politics has no place in student politics. However, fighting intolerance on campus certainly does.

I applaud Ben's commitment to fighting hate-speech on campus, particularly hate-speech masquerading as fair-comment such as your letter.

Yours in unity,
Duncan Harrod

Polishing your crystal ball?

Dear Woroni,
It's nearing the end of first term 2004 and we've had voluntary student unionism for nearly six months and I want to know why ANU hasn't reaped the benefits of freedom of association. Where was O-Week this year? Why were Resistance and FOCUS the only stalls at market day? Where are the customary start of year celebrations? I paid my voluntary GSF so why can't I get funding for my young liberals club? I had grand plans for being SA president someday for my resume, but I don't think heading a sub thousand dollar budget per year association will look very impressive.

Rouslun
ANU young liberal movement

Moving for quorum

Dear Woroni,
I would like to thank the incoming Student Association executive for refusing to let a successful election campaign change them. They didn't attend general meetings of the SA before they were elected. They don't go to General meetings of the SA now. It is I suppose a little much to expect these people to have any experience in the jobs that we, the students will be paying them for. The president receives over \$13,000 of our money. However it must be said that the incoming general secretary does have some experience running meetings, being a member of the Democrats (remember the vote independent posters? I can hear Natasha Stott Despoja laughing from here).

It is however, the failure of the incoming executive to support more social functions such as

politics in the pub that disappoints me. It appears that once again we have elected people that will run a mile before engaging in a debate about the political issues that concern students. Even on a social level in the ANU bar.

Yours disgusted by the contempt with which they have already begun to treat the student body now that they don't need your votes.

Duncan Harrod

Joining that special, secret club

Dear Woroni,
I'm a law student, I think I'm reasonably aware of what's going on in university around me, but lately I've noticed something going on that apparently doesn't involve me and I'm feeling really out of the loop. Twice a week I enjoy an hour of Tony Connolly in Legal Theory. Yes, it's not out of the ordinary that I should know my lecturer's name, let alone first name, but what troubles me is that a certain clique that sits in the front row at Coombs all know and loudly address him and each other on a first name basis during every freaking lecture. It's not surprising that this society-of-the-blissfully-unaware-of-other-people-trying-

to-listen-to-the-lecture is entirely over thirty. Was there a special orientation meeting, where mature aged students and lecturers have a beer and learn each others' names, that I missed out on when I started my degree? Does that old lady really think anyone besides her and her grandchildren find her questions even remotely relevant?

Sincerely,

Out of the loop

Happy holidays from Jago

Dear Sir/Madam

The tourist industry is a parasite, both culturally and economically. Culturally, it makes local people's lifestyles a sideshow. Each tourist visiting at an "unspoilt" paradise is another step towards spoiling it. Economically, tourism is trying to get rich by taking money from one pocket and putting it in another. Australians should stay with relatives at holiday time. Living in a big country it's hard to find time to spend with our extended families. When the opportunity comes to do so, we mostly don't -- spending thousands of dollars as tourists, avoiding them. Any industry which entices people not to spend leisure time with family is a social menace. Yours sincerely
Arnold Jago

Many thanks to all our letter writers. If you have something you would like to share with Woroni, write in. Next issue's feature letter will receive this nifty designer chair donated by Woroni 1985 Editor's Mum. With a curved hardwood back and base upholstered in trendy nylon, this chair is good for sitting or standing on. Send your letters to woroni_articles@studentanu.edu.au Happy exams!



All letters are strictly the opinion of their authors and do not reflect the opinions of Woroni or the ANU SA.

President's Report

Dear All,

Once again, I hope you are well and managing to work through what is no doubt a busy time of the year. Apologies for not writing in the last edition of the Woroni - I actually managed to get in a break over the holidays which was enjoyable but, as I'm sure you'll agree, far too short!!!

Anyway, to the latest news of your Association:

Higher Education

Our friend Brendan Nelson (Federal Minister for Education) recently introduced the Higher Education Support (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003 into the Parliament which, in its current form, basically translates to the "We'd like to screw more money out of students (but not provisionally) Bill 2003." While the legislation has been pushed through the House of Reps and into the Senate, it remains a very frustrating time for your student representatives as we have no real idea what will become law and what will be traded in the inevitable cycle of Senate politics.

Nonetheless, I'm confident we've done some important things of late:

+Sent a strong submission to the Senate Inquiry into the Proposed Reforms (chaired by Kim Carr, a sitting member of our University Council) on behalf of all ANU Undergrads.

+Drafted a strong submission to the ANU Council outlining a student perspective on the proposed reforms (and, in particular, fully rejecting any fee increases on this campus and attacks on your student union through VSU).

+Last Thursday supported NTEU rally in Union court and made clear our belief that without staff who feel comfortable in their workplace we can never have a high quality standard of education. We also supported the Vice Chancellor in his signing of an agreement to that effect with ANU staff.

+Continued to media bash our message that access to Higher Education should not be based on one's ability to pay but rather on intellectual ability. We have

also continued to voice the plight of the student working some form paid employment (80% of you) as being absolutely unacceptable and posing serious threats to the quality of education provided at the ANU.

Accommodation

I'm pleased to announce that University Appeals and Grievance procedures will be in place throughout all ANU Halls and Colleges next year. In the past students have often had to deal with the unpredictable and often unfair grievance procedures of Accommodation administrations. Unfortunately however, on campus residents will bear the brunt of a 7% rent increase as of next year. Considering this

makes up a 25% increase over 3 years, your Students' Association has joined forces with the Postgraduate and Research Students' Association to campaign against these increases and urge the University to address accommodation financing as a matter of urgency (if we don't you will only continue to cough up more and more).

Finally on the Accommodation front, I have been working very closely with the ANU to develop a new 500-bed facility set to open 2005. While this will help ease the Accommodation crisis for ANU students (we're currently set to be over 500 beds short by 2005), I have concerns about how much rent for the facility will be, who will operate

it (a private operator or the university?) along with issues of parking and student safety.

If you are interested in getting involved in this campaign or contributing to any of this work either through question or concern, please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Legal Officer

I am confident that this position will start working for you all as of February next year so please keep your eyes peeled for propaganda during O-week advertising the location of this service and its hours of operation. If you have issues surrounding immigration, tenancy, academic misconduct and intellectual property this service is for you!

Elections and Accountability

On Friday 24 October at the Students' Association Ordinary General Meeting it is the hope of the 2003 Executive that Constitutional changes will be made to allow for a more efficient, representative and accountable student representative body. The proposed changes are posted on our web and will have hopefully been adopted by the time you read this; either way have a look and take an interest.

Finally, I'd like to wish the new office bearers of the Association all the very best of luck for next year. I'd also like to warmly congratulate Michelle (our Administrator) on the birth of her new baby boy and welcome Tamara (our temporary full time replacement) and her enthusiasm to the Association.

A big thank all of you who worked so tirelessly this year to ensure the Students' Association remains an active, accountable and relevant student representative body for all ANU Undergraduates.

Don't forget services like the Academic Skills and Learning Centre and Counselling are on hand for all of you stress pots out there - please take advantage of the help they have on offer. Condoms/Lubes and Dams are also available from the Students' Association if you need to relieve pressure in other ways (!) and John over at the Union supermarket sells some wicked lollies.

Anyway, all the very best and have an awesome and well earned summer break.

Mocca

President, ANU Students' Association
Regular Office Hours: Monday 2pm - 3pm Wednesday 11am - 12pm All appointments welcome, after working hours if necessary.



Mocca's tips for DIY protest #41: Bring own megaphone



Australian Idol judge Ian 'Dicko' Dickson, General Manager of Marketing for BMG Australia, courted controversy by telling contestant Paulini Curuenavuli that she should choose her outfits better "or lose a few pounds". This comes a few months after some sound technician, perhaps Shane Warne's alter ego, 'Joe the Cameraman', was watching Big Brother's contestants behind the walls when he said "I'd never go for a fat woman".

Most sober viewers were thinking the same things as Dicko and Joe, but most viewers couldn't be heard by the audience. The technician was overheard by the BB contestants, and as if it was a surprise to them that she is morbidly obese (her weight obviously exceeded her IQ), they were mortally offended. Thank god that spectacle is over for another year.

People are expected to feel sympathy for fat fucks, but exactly why this is the case is bewildering they could eat less, but choose not to. Fat people seem to think that if at first you don't succeed in weight loss then you should lower your standards. Obese people have an inability to accept the consequences of their actions and place the blame for their ill discipline at the hands of others.

Too frequently fat people blame some medical condition or cry "it's glandular" or "I have a slow metabolism" or "it's my genetics". Is it their genetics that makes them lazy slugs that leach off Medicare when they get diabetes or heart disease? When fat people are not making feeble excuses they are inevitably whining about their self-esteem. Slim people owe fat people nothing, least of all sympathy - it's not our job to make fat people feel good about themselves.

The U.S. State of Michigan and the cities of Washington D.C. and Santa Cruz all have laws preventing discrimination against fat people. These laws are hopefully something that is not repeated here in Australia. Individuals should be able to discriminate against fat people, just as we are able to discriminate against stupid people. The vast majority of fat people are fat because they are weak, unmotivated and ill-disciplined.

Another disturbing feature of the debate over fat people taking place in the U.S. is that groups such as the National Association to Advance Fat Acceptance (NAAFA) use all sorts of arguments to diminish their member's responsibility for their obesity. Fat people are adept at playing the victim, they blame everyone other than themselves for their predicament and expect sympathy from the rest of us lean and athletic types. Political correctness teaches us that people who are socially disadvantaged are automatically victims, and hence should be regarded as victims even when they are to blame for the hole in which they find themselves. Political correctness sucks. Organisations such as NAAFA liken discrimination against fat people to racial discrimination. This shows that fat people are not only umm...fat but that they are also stupid. People do not choose their race. Fat people are fat because they choose to stuff their faces with too many custard tarts. It is a pretty simple equation: if you eat more fuel than your body can burn then you pork up like the former leader of the opposition. But inside every fatty there is a thin person wanting to get out, and at least Kim Beasley is having a red hot go at losing the pud.

Southwest Airlines in the U.S. has a sales policy that makes fat people buy two seats, (the second seat is bought at a discount) this is a great idea for skinny poor people who can presumably sell the seat space they are not using, or for skinny rich people who can buy a seat for their briefcase. Groups like NAAFA have a problem with this of course, but fail to recognise that airlines do not sell comfortable travel, and never have. They operate to make a profit. What airlines sell is a seat, and when a fat-arse takes two they lose money. It's like a freight company that transports umm...freight. If what you're shipping will fit in one box, you pay for one box. If it takes more than one box you pay more. Similarly if each of your butt-cheeks requires its own 737 you pay.

According to the Australian Department of Health and Aging 67% of Australian males and 52% of Australian females are overweight. This means fat people are already, or are approaching the majority. Australia being a democracy and all, if we lean and sinewy types don't ostracise fat people now we are going to be in deep trouble.

To this end, Prof Richard Epstein reporting at the American Enterprise Institute conference on obesity suggests that people allow employers, schools and insurers to "discriminate against any person who is obese." Thus providing incentive to not be obese via lack of employment and education choices and higher insurance premiums. Good idea



Above: Some people do not find people who look like this attractive.

Professor! Keep them coming! Our own Minister for Health and Aging, Senator Kay Patterson has a different approach. She suggests fat people should lose weight. "Relatively modest weight loss can have significant health benefits in tackling overweight (sic) and obesity." Brilliant. More sound advice might be to stop cramming your cake-hole with pie, peel yourself off the couch take a walk around the block and let Aussie Idol go unwatched for an evening.

Warren Buffett is muscular man with big hair from Melbourne, he recommends smoking as an excellent method to suppress appetite and lose weight.

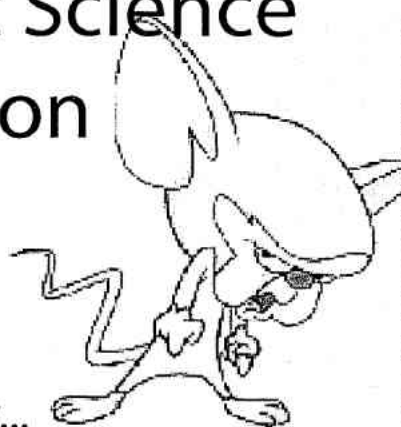


Angriest Science student on campus

With great genius often comes insanity...

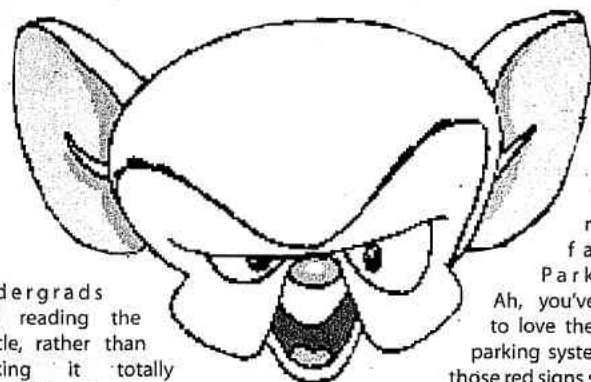
A mate of mine is an editor for Woroni. I think it is the leisure editor. Anyway, apparently they find it hard to get people to write stuff for our newspaper, and she kind of asked me (in a roundabout, me commenting, sort of way) to write something. I asked "what? Give me a topic for goodness sakes!" (add in expletives at own discretion) and she said "what about ANU parking?" and I basically went "hell yeah, that and..." So basically that is what I am doing. Writing an article on the 10 million things that really piss off ANU students... well, maybe not 10 million, but a few nonetheless. So let the ranting and raving begin! Trust me, it will be a lot of ranting and raving...

Ok, so the thing that pisses me off the most, as it probably does most of you, is the screwed up journal borrowing system. For example, you need to get one article essential for your essay/report, so you toddle off to the library, and it isn't there. And you are like "man, that is totally bogus" and you storm down to the librarians and go "hey, I can't find this journal!" and they go "sorry, I am afraid that it is being borrowed" and you are all like "man, I really need that article..." Then they ask you the question of doom. The question that you loathe so much you want to scream. That question is: "are you a postgrad or undergrad?" (insert



scream here).

As you are all aware, the only people who can re-call and borrow any journal are those people who already have degrees (damn them). And most of the time they only need one article in them. But no, they have to take the whole thing away so no one else can use the other hundred articles in the freaking journal. So, to all the postgrads out there, have you ever thought about sitting in the library like the rest of us



undergrads and reading the article, rather than making it totally impossible for anyone else to actually use it. I mean, there are photocopiers, and plenty of comfortable tables and seats to sit at! Next time before you take that journal away, think about the other students you are inconveniencing.

The second thing that pisses me off is the stupid freaking student election

system. Sure, the student Liberal, Labor and Indies are like "well, you all suck, cause you don't freaking vote and you don't uphold your own democracy," but what about actually getting us to vote. I mean, at the Adelaide uni they used beer (which they later got reprimanded for). Also, the majority of students who do vote do so only because they know the candidates. And this is only because they all live in colleges. For example, the majority of Momentum Nexus candidates were from colleges, so all their buddies (let's say, at least forty to fifty students from each college) voted for them, hence the reason they got in. You put yourself up as a candidate without a huge backing of mates (your circle of four mates from your last group work assignment isn't going to get you in) and, well, sorry! It is your own fault. This is just how the system works. So next time you complain about us lazy voters, maybe you as the potential representative should actually think about ways to get students to vote, to actually show you are representing us, rather than going on your socio-democratic bullshit rant!

Now for my fave!

Parking.

Ah, you've got to love the ANU parking system. All those red signs saying

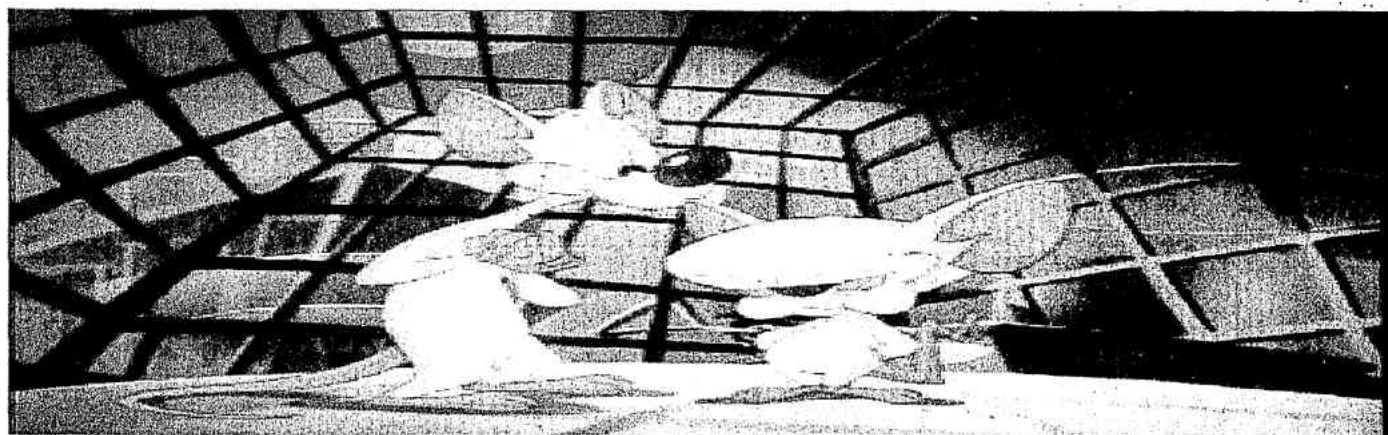
"Reserved parking for YAF - 27M" or the red curbs, or what about when they close off parking areas? How many times have they done that, close down your new favorite parking place since you started your degree? Think about it. At least six times right? Doesn't that make you angry? Doesn't that

get you really fired up? I mean, don't you just want to park on that red curb or in that two hour zone for three hours just to spite them? Or how about being forced to park in an illegal place just cause you can't find a spot, and your exam starts in two minutes? Yes, this is the ANU parking system. What more can I say? It is shit-house. And what does ANU intend to do to actually fix the damn thing up? Well, if you know tell me, cause I sure as hell don't! I only drive once a week cause of the stupid freaking parking, and then I totally carpool. Speaking of carpool, some crazy student came up with the idea of compulsory carpooling for some of our car parks, making it even more impossible to get spaces. And if you are reading this article, then bite me!

Anyway, there you have it. If I were you, I would be annoyed at the fact that all Woroni seems to publish is stupid, opinionated students ranting about boring menial shit. I mean, like as if you can't do the same fucking thing, and why should someone be given credit for doing something that is obviously so god damn easy! And as for those Woroni editors, they are obviously mindless idiots. They can't recognize dribble and bullshit when it is staring them in the face. They are all like "Whoa man. That is so out there. For the people man!" I don't know why they even bothered to put this crap piece of dogs breakfast in their C-grade yuppie "news" paper. Ech. I am a science student, not an English student. I don't even know how to write! Let alone try! What is worse is that I bother to read all the crap, cover to cover that those art-students have written!

So there. That is enough of a rant. Good day to you, and I hope you don't get stuck in a twenty-person long photocopier or printer queue.

By Jess the angry Science student



The night that was...The ANU Law Ball 2003

Despite the extortion, the charm of the Law Ball could not be denied according to Chris Prunty

Regardless of whether one had a good time, the Law Ball 2003 did not quite live up to expectation on the glam front. Blame for this must lie at the feet of the organisers. It is obvious and accepted that Law students will turn into money-grubbing, blood-sucking leeches within a few years of graduation. Even those with the best intentions and delusions of grandeur about changing the system eventually sell out and come over to the dark side. For Law students to put on such a structurally dodgy ball while charging over \$70 a ticket is scandalous. If the Commerce students could drag themselves away from the Bridge Lounge and games of Badminton and Pai Gow for five minutes they could have a real chance at returning the Comm Ball to pre-eminence among balls.

The evening did not start well. While we were waiting to get in there were fire twirlers. I have a number of problems with fire twirlers. Most of this angst stems from a deep and well-founded dislike of no-good,

unkempt, lay-about hippies. My displeasure was further heightened by the thought that a small portion of my ticket money was going to keep these hairy, overweight, dead-shit, beat-nicks in lentil soup and tally-ho paper.

The dichotomy between the fire twirlers and the otherwise civilised Law Ball attendees could not have been greater. The former were, as one would expect, dishevelled cretins. Whereas the latter, looked quite dapper, cutting fine figures in our suits and ball-gowns and the like. I do have one criticism of the eveningwear, however.

My criticism of the male and female fashions centres on the generally piss-poor effort displayed by those who did not embrace the jungle theme and dress accordingly. Perhaps this theme did not resonate with the student populace? Might I suggest "pimps and prostitutes" as a theme for 2004?

Rydges Lakeside, the venue for the evening's frivolity, has clearly seen better days. It was kinda cool that the green carpet matched the jungle theme but not that cool. Likewise, Bobby's is a hole. I was devastated to learn that I was going to have to break my vow to "never set foot in this cesspit again, lest I be struck down by a howling black syphilis."

After ascending the staircase of Rydges with as much style and aplomb I could muster (and resisting the urge to skip like a schoolgirl), I braced myself for the usual kafuffle and disputes over seating arrangements. It is traditional that when one arrives at the dining hall at any Uni Ball, (regardless of whether it is at the High Court or Melville Hall) one is immediately displaced from ones peers

and as such one is forced to displace someone else and so on. It is imperative that one questions the interloper sitting at your table and having received a plausible but patiently crap explanation and not being bothered to walk all the way back outside to the lists of names and tables one then just says "fuck it" in your coolest Dom Krupinski voice and head to the bar until you spot someone stupid enough to put up with your bullshit.

Fortunately, friends of mine had blazed a trail to our table in my absence. I think I was off somewhere, busy accosting the News Editor of 'Woron' about "sticking it to da man."

Finding my table full of familiar and semi-familiar faces was nice, but the added touch came when I noticed the entrées were already sitting on our tables waiting for us. This was classy enough but it was dessert that was to be the real talking point on the culinary front.

Dessert was a Cornetto drumstick. I seem to recall a similar prank being pulled at last years Law Ball with mini-magnums being passed off as a dessert. Do you have any idea how hard it is to eat one of those things when they are melting and you're pissed and you're trying to go tux sans ice-cream in order to hold on to that last veil of civility to impress some chick?

By the time the Cornettos made their subtle entrance, the room looked like a bomb had hit it. People were getting into the spirit of the occasion

as much as the confined seating would allow. Alcohol and alcoholism are, have been, and will always be, the focus of any good Law Ball and my mates (even chick mates), some of whom are four year Law Ball veterans, were doing what was necessary to make the most of the 'free' beverage as long as it lasted. Thanks to my mates I can declare that I did not have to go to the bar once. For this I salute them.

Some, from the Old-School, might think that bar-run etiquette demands that trips to said bar be shared equally among drinkers. To this I say; bunkum and balderdash and other such antiquated terms. Instead, one must endeavour to cultivate alcoholic friends. Whether they are alcoholics or become alcoholics after having met you is of no consequence so long as they are the type of folk who start to fret when they only have two bottles each of red and white wine, a sneaky hip flask, a bottle of 'sparkling wine' on the table and six or so bottles of VB secreted at their feet.

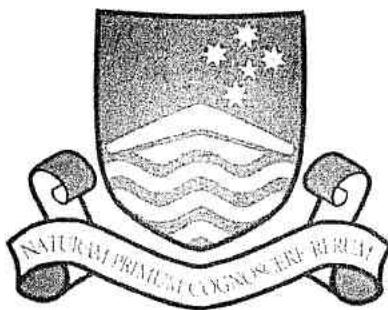
Perhaps this type of debauchery is why the band stopped and the lights were lifted at 11 o'clock. This was extremely disappointing as it signalled the end to the free piss and meant that we would inevitably be herded down-stairs to the evil Bobby's where we would sell our souls to the devil and be forced to exchange bling-bling for beverage.

Speaking of bling-bling, the music in Bobbies was surprisingly non-black. Usually, they only have two types of music there; R and B. Kylie got a run, as did Madonna and after watching the last few weeks of 'Aussie Idol' I feel I am turning into a bit of a pop slut. With this realisation, and due to the fact all my mates had signalled they were sick of my shit by leaving, I decided to do the same.

Balls are what you make of them.

By Chris Prunty





Even lecturers got opinions!

Did this semester seem unusually short to you?
Three years on, the six-point credit system is still
causing chaos.

For those of you who may not remember so clearly, three years ago ANU changed the number of points allocated to each course from eight to six. In theory, this would mean all students had to take four courses instead of three in a semester, and as a result all courses would have to be made shorter by twenty-five percent. This issue, Woroni set out to discover how things were going under the new system by interviewing Asian Religions lecturer John Powers.

Woroni: Can you give us a run down of what changes were made, exactly?

John: It was about three years ago, if I remember right. The administration told us that they were going to change the system of points. At that time you would get eight points per course, and they were going to change it to six points. The reasons for that were unclear. There were a lot of rumours about it, one rumour was that two students who were in the Law faculty complained that they were doing different amounts of work for different courses, which is just part of the way things are in the university. In any event the university decided that it wanted to standardise the amount of work, and so we were told we had to cut out twenty-five percent of our courses, which meant cutting down the number of contact hours per semester. The problem with that was that the only way to actually get that reduction was to cut out the last three weeks of the course.

What it's led to is basically chaos across the university. So some people drop off a lecture or a tutorial here and there, or they'll start the class late or end it early, and so it's become completely chaotic. The other problem is that even if you do all that, you still end up doing the same amount of work per course. If you're a student you're still in class and you're still studying, the lecturers are still doing the same amount of work that they had done before, so basically everyone's doing the same amount of work they used to do for a thirteen-week semester, but you're only getting credit for a ten week semester.

I think probably about a quarter of the faculty have decided the only thing to do is to cut out the last three weeks of the course, making it basically a ten-week semester. Which I think is a mistake in a whole range of ways. For example, if students want to transfer courses overseas, and overseas universities find that we're basically running a ten-week semester, they won't be wanting to give them the same amount of credit as their students are getting for the standard fourteen-week semester.

W: Even though they're basically doing the same amount of work?

J: Right. The idea now is that under the six point system, the students have to do an extra course over and above what they did before, and lecturers also have to take an extra course during the course of the year too.

W: So what happened when they decided to bring in the changes?

J: I remember there was a faculty meeting and it was announced that the university was mandating this. Every faculty, as far as I know, drafted a letter saying "this is a really dumb idea" and said that it made no sense in any way at all, and that it would be counterproductive in a whole range of ways. The administration basically ignored this. They said this is the way it's going to be, adjust yourselves accordingly and that's that.

A: Did the students get any sort of input into the decision at all?

J: No.

A: So they didn't even know it was happening?

J: Most students had no idea. I told students in my classes what was happening, and of course people were wondering why it was only a ten-week course, and I said it was because the administration said to cut out twenty-five percent of the course and that the only way to do this was to lop off the last three weeks of the course.

A: Obviously when it came in it caused problems, but now three years on are you still feeling the same amount of difficulty?

J: Oh yeah, because there's a certain amount of integrity to the thirteen-week semester, and there are things that I simply can't do anymore. Some lecturers have taken their fourteen-week course and added onto it making it run for two semesters, which is one way to do it. I really don't want to do that because if I did I wouldn't be able to teach some of the courses that I teach now. There are things which I used to do in the courses that I can't do now, which are things which I'd like to do and I think would be useful, but I need three or four more weeks to do them.

A: You mentioned something about a university audit that is coming up...?

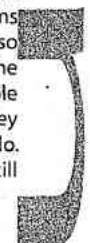
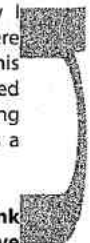
J: Well this is one of the things which I think is going to be interesting. There's an audit coming up for the university, and one of the things that these auditors look at is standardisation. If you have very different things happening across the university, that's usually the sort

of thing they pick up on. And I can't imagine that any qualified auditor could miss this, because what you have now is basically chaos. Each class now can be run entirely differently from any of the other classes, and from both the student's and the lecturer's point of view I think this is just unworkable. If I were an auditor I would pick up on this immediately. I would be surprised if the auditors don't do something about this or don't mention it as a real issue.

A: So how else to you think the administration could have achieved their goals? Was this their only option?

J: Well I don't think that this actually achieved their goals. If the goal was standardisation, I don't think that it did that. And I don't see why you couldn't have had the old system of an eight credit system and a thirteen week semester, which is in line with basically almost every other university in the Western world. This just strikes me as a very strange way of doing things. It shortens courses unnecessarily and forces you to take content out of them, which I don't think is a good idea. The problem is that most people making administrative decisions probably haven't been in classrooms for ten or twenty years, if at all, so they really don't understand the impact it's going to have on people in classrooms. It's something they mandated and we were told to do. We didn't like it then and we still don't like it.

Interview by Alice Allan



Card Tables and Armoured Cars

A Day in the Life of Today's Protesters

By Adam Brodie-McKenzie



Watch out! The hippies are revolting!

The day began with a complete shock to the system by waking up at 8am in the morning. I did my daily ablutions and headed to my friend's, let us call him Mr. Churches, room. Today was the big day, when George "Dubya" Bush was visiting our fine capital and we got to tell him what we thought about it and him whether he heard it or not.

In many ways I felt that Mr. Churches exemplified perfectly the majority of the university campus in his response to the Presidential visit. I knocked on his door and heard a mumbling noise from within. He opened the door, in nothing save his Bonds, and asked me what I wanted.

"Aren't you coming?" I ask.

"To what?" full consciousness had not yet dawned on him.

"To the rally"

"Man, I'm too fucking tired." He stated as he shut the door.

How could I argue with that? The man had his priorities. Thankfully Mr. Churches was not the only other person from a College of over 300 students that was attending the rally; there were at least another 6. I realized at that time really the only people that would be attending the rally, given its early 9am start, would be the true diehards and voyeurs. Why could Mr. Bush not have the decency to come to Parliament House at 2pm, a far more favourable hour for the campus activist? He certainly was a devious one...although you wouldn't know it to look at him.

As we walked to the protest it was nice to know that if we wanted to know where Dubya was at that exact moment in time we could always look to the sky and see where the helicopter was. This was evidently meant to guard against terrorism, when all it really did was give any such person a beacon so they knew exactly where to aim the rocket launcher.

Along the way we passed a bunch of hopeful protesters who had just got off the bus. Many looked dazed and disillusioned and a great many headed in the opposite direction to the location of the protest. The rest followed us as they assumed that we knew where were going for some reason.

At the protest it was great to see a wide spectrum of ideologies come together to hate one man. The Socialist Alternative, Socialist Alliance, International Socialists, Socialist Resistance and the Green Left were all there in force. Each had their own rag of which they attempted to stuff in your face at least ten times on the way to rally. It was obviously under the logic that just because you said no to the first person it did not mean you would to the seventh. It was then that I understood how such rallies could turn violent. ("No I don't want your fucking paper!")

For an anti-capitalist bunch there certainly was a great deal of commercialism. Not only were there numerous papers, there were also badge sellers and general recruitment agencies to join all encompassing organizations such as

those aforementioned. After I bought a piece of paper which wittingly had a "No War" sign like that of a "No Smoking" sign, the salesman admitted the only reason they were selling the signs was because they made a loss on the badges that were used in the real anti-war rallies. In one ad break during the proceedings, one Alternative Socialist Green Left Alliance spokesperson told us that the protest had been brought to us by the opposing war people and to dig deep so they can stop the war in Iraq.

Frankly, our May 68 descendants would have been turning in their graves if they weren't still alive...and attending the rally. Unlike the good ol' days where a rabble of activists, predominantly students, would march right into the faces of those they were protesting against, throwing things, yelling abuse and generally having a good time, the modern day protest is something completely different. There was a designated protest area outside the lawns of Parliament house with barriers. Surprisingly, or not, everyone kept within those barriers. The Alternative Socialist Green Left Alliance spokesperson had told us to stay within the barriers because we wanted it to be peaceful. Funny, because I thought there was a difference between suppression and peace.

Despite this, people were still able to have a raucous time. It was peculiar that whenever a camera lens turned towards someone they became far more passionate about what they were saying. Chants included the good old "What are we fighting for?! No racism! No War!" and "What do we want? insert phrase here! When do we want it? NOW!" and last and most loudly "Go Homebush!" (Personally I thought it was a rather inappropriate place to promote an Australian sports facility, but whatever, just go with the flow.) At one time the crowd shouted "Choke Bush Choke!" as people began to throw pretzels at the police.

I actually found the police's apparel rather puzzling. They were all wearing gloves that said "MBA Grand Prix".

I wondered if this was because they had recently come from some race car event and forgot to change or if possibly they just didn't want to get their hands dirty by touching all the filthy hippies. The closest anyone got to the police however was a man who was attempting to graffiti the barriers. However, one shake from the policeman's head and the man declined back into the crowd. Fight the Power!

Another puzzling fact was that shrubbery had been planted along the front of Parliament house. Once Bush arrived it became obvious why this was as it hid his Presidential vehicle and himself from the public eye, and any other eye possibly looking through a gun sight. Really the pun was in bad taste however. But then I guess the crowd did get to see bush, or bushes as it were, even if not Bush.

Once the entourage had left, including a swag of Murray's buses, the crowd began to disperse. Before you knew it there was rock music blaring and joints alighting and the party had begun. I would like to have stayed. Apparently later they were to head to The Lodge to yell at Bush's entourage some more. Poor bastard. I mean people complain when he is not here and then when he does come people are still abusing him. However, I did not remain to jibe at Mr. Bush and his mass amount of security that cost the Australian taxpayer millions of dollars. I had classes which cost me \$40 a pop to go to and my hunger pains were beginning to override my anger pains. I had my shout at the world's leader and I was satisfied. Who said that protest is dead?

As a post mortem, I heard that there is a protest tomorrow as well against the Chinese President Hu Jintao who is also coming to Australia. Apparently, unlike today, there will be an open gallery and hardly any security. Also, there is not meant to be nearly as big a protest. Fair enough really. I mean it is not as if the People's Republic of China has ever invaded a country or abused human rights...

KEEP THE BASTARDS (vs) HONEST

Attendance of your SA Reps at meetings (assorted varieties) throughout 2003.

Being residents of the Students' Association building, we at Woroni are often bombarded with group emails urging our elected Student Representatives to fulfil their constitutional obligations to attend meetings. The names of these meetings are typically acronymistic - SRC, CRC, FRC, OGM, SGM, AGM. Woroni is only invited to attend one sort of meeting - CRC - we're not quite sure what it stands for, but it generally approves budgets and money stuff (at least that's what we were told). CRC was chronically inquorate throughout the year, despite the best efforts off the SA executive, which meant that first semester budgets for departments were not approved until the end of Semester One. This led us to ask, why would anyone go through the humiliation of getting elected, and not carry through with ANY of the promises they had made, or even attend meetings? Maybe it's obvious to you, but apparently it happens every year. Anyway, the General Secretary emailed a meeting attendance table out to everyone who's meant to attend CRC, and we thought students might be interested in what their elected representatives really get up to, which is probably not much at all if this table is anything to go by.

Fred Lester commented: "This is a reasonably accurate reflection of attendance at meetings, however due to some human error there may be one or two discrepancies. Also note that whilst an apology is not attendance, a lot of these representatives do many other things to benefit the wider student body."

Steve "Mocca" Michaelson also told Woroni that representatives who failed to attend three consecutive meetings without an apology were asked to leave tribal council. This year's evictees were Stuart Munckton and Thomas Mahony.

CRC Meeting Attendance		1	2	3	4	5	6
Exec	S Michelson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	D Kelly	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y
	C Burke/W Lester	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	L B Soh	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y
	S Harle	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y
Gen Reps	A Ali	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	X
	C McKenzie	Y	X	Y	Y	Y	A
	D Connolly	Y	Y	A	Y	A	A
	W Lester/T Slattery	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	I Eow	A	A	Y	Y	A	Y
	L Sargeson	Y	Y	Y	X	Y	X
	N Jackson	A	Y	A	A	X	X
	S Keenan	Y	X	Y	A	A	A
	L Snedden	X	A	Y	A	A	Y
	A Bauder	X	X	Y	X	A	X
	Y H Lu	X	X	Y	X	Y	Y
	P Kukanesan	X	X	Y	X	A	Y
	N Tedeschi	A	X	Y	A	X	X
S Munckton	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Departments	D Mills	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y
	N Keane	Y	A	Y	A	Y	Y
	A Shelly	A	A	A	A	A	Y
	T Gray	Y	A	A	Y	A	A
Fac Reps							
Arts	L Sargeson	Y	Y	Y	X	Y	A
	D Gerritson	A	Y	Y	Y	A	Y
Asian Studies	G Pulestone	Y	A	A	A	Y	Y
	T Mahony	X	X	X	X	X	A
Eco/Comm	K Johnston/V. Krishnakumar	A	Y	A	X	X	A
	J Shi	Y	A	Y	A	Y	Y
FEIT	G Mills	A	A	Y	X	X	X
	W Phau	A	A	Y	A	A	Y
Law	K Castrissios	Y	A	Y	A	Y	Y
	J McCarthy	Y	A	Y	A	Y	Y
Science	C Henry	A	A	A	X	X	X
	D Longstaff/K. Harding	Y	A	Y	A	X	A
	Woroni	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	Y
	C & S Chair	Y	X	Y	Y	X	Y
	ISSANU	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	X
	NITA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Have you heard?

There will be a

7% rent increase

across ALL ANU Residential Halls and
Colleges in 2004

Are you putting
work above study
and
study above health
just to pay the rent?

Affordability and access to appropriate on campus and off-campus accommodation is going to be a problem for many students at the ANU for the medium to long term.

A recent report prepared for the ACT Government indicated that young people and students are experiencing more housing related stress than any other group in Canberra.

A recent survey conducted by PARSA indicates that 60% of postgraduate respondents who gave income details spend more than 25% of their total income on housing.

The ANU actively works to attract potential candidates from outside the ACT. As a result an extremely high proportion of ANU students (about 80% of postgraduates) come from overseas and interstate. This is likely to continue.

In first semester 2003, 137 students were housed in temporary accommodation at the Rex Hotel, the Australian International Hotel School and the Canberra Motor Village.

The ANU has recognised there will be future unmet demand for on-campus accommodation and are currently taking steps to provide additional places. Regardless of these measures, it is expected that this problem will continue for at least the next three years.

The reasons given for the 7% rent increase are: Salary increases, increased insurance costs, need to rebuild maintenance reserves and, where appropriate increased food costs.

Have you heard?

PARSA along with ANUSA and Students at Halls and Colleges have launched a

Student Accommodation Campaign



Contact your residential representative or PARSA's Education Officer **James Swansson** (james.swansson@anu.edu.au) or Research Assistant **Robyne Nash** (robyme.nash@anu.edu.au or x54187)

EXECUTIVE EXHORTATION



Dear All,

As we approach the end of the ride that has been ANU SA 2003, your friendly Exec is as busy as ever. We have finished meetings for the year, please note the published attendance lists published in this edition of Woroni.

There are a number of areas that we continue to work in but we are mainly trying to facilitate the smooth transition to next years exec through a rather strenuous and indeed rigorous process. And what a team they will be, led by "Mad" Max Jeganathan, they have some corking great ideas for next year - UniBall for example! We would like to wish them the best of, luck for the year ahead.

However we continue to work away tying up loose ends, and hopefully cleaning up the office a little bit.

Lip Ban has been flat out formulating a proposed budget for 2004 and writing new contracts for the Staff. DK has been very busy with higher education and Staff/ Student Forums, which by the by, all went very well. Sarz is flat out organising

the odd social event here and there, like our SA end of year drinks last week. And Fred continues to drink large quantities of beer. Please note that you only have 30 days to appeal your end of year results from the time of receiving them. Go straight to your lecturer, and if he or she is a dickhead email Dave (or Kathryn) at sa.vicepres@anu.edu.au ASAP. Furthermore, if anybody is interested in carrying on the ANU Swimming Pool collection activities and becoming a member of ANU Spa Society email Dave now. We would also like to say a huge thanks and well done to the President, Steve "Mocca" Michelson. Steve, your commitment and drive has been a source of inspiration for all of us, you angry little man.

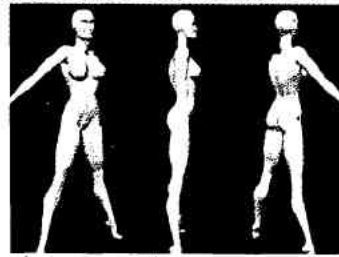
Thank you all for a great year, it has been a pleasure to serve and to meet so many of the Student body. I fear that this report cannot do justice to a term of office that we could only describe as fandabbydozy.

We hope that you all have a great summer.

Goodnight, and Thank you.

HEAR ME ROAR

Here we are at the end of another year. Hope everyone survived. I think I did. Next year's women's officer is Amanda Connell. I'm sure she will be great in the role. Congratulations and good luck Amanda. The Handbooks are now available for collection. You can either get them from the SA or the Rapunzel room. For those of you who still haven't found out the new code to the Rapunzel room door feel free to knock. The code is also available from Tamara in the SA building. Reclaim the Night was a huge success and full credit goes to the Canberra Rape Crisis Centre for all their organizational efforts. The women who worked on the committee are some of the most supportive and productive individuals I've had the pleasure of working with. For those of you hungry



for more here are some events over the holidays you could get active in. 16th November: International day for Tolerance 20th November: Universal Children's Day 25th November: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women 1st December: World AIDS Day 2nd December: International Day for the Abolition of Slavery 3rd December: International Day of Disabled Persons 10th December: Human Rights Day That's me for the year. Remember to look out for Amanda, say g'day and sign up for the collective on market day next year.

LOUD AND QUEER

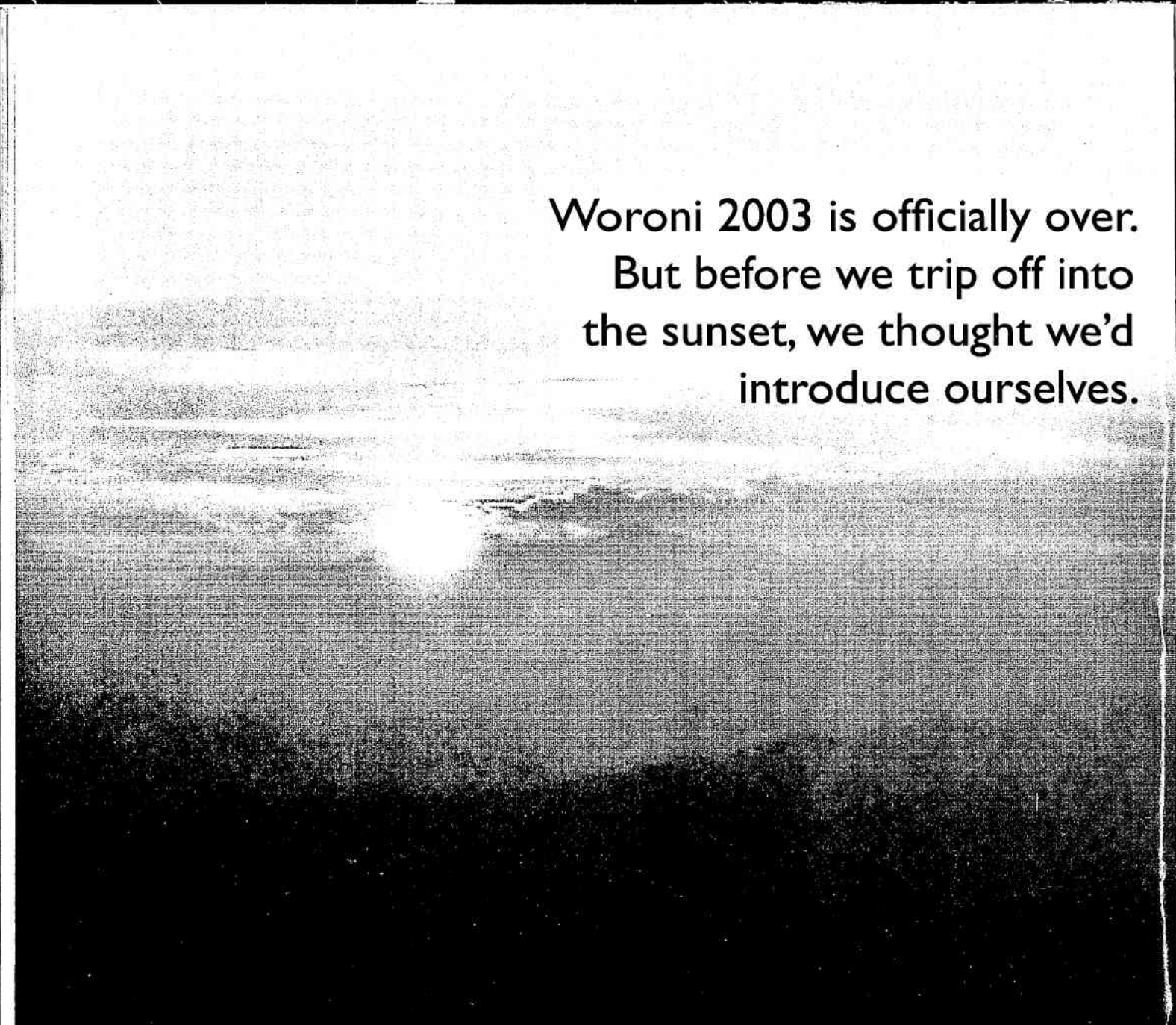
It seems like I've only just finished writing the department's report for the last issue, but then Thom and Ali tell me the next one's due now. And then there was the report to CRC, and Tamara asked me to write something for the SA's email newsletter... How on earth am I actually supposed to have anything to write about when all I ever do is write reports about what we do? But anyway...

As alluded to above, not much has happened in the Department since the last report. By the time you read this I'll no doubt be panicking about my exams and cursing this fucking position for making me fail everything. However, if you have some spare time over November, you may be interested in checking out an event or two in SpringOut, Canberra's queer festival. For details on events, see springout.interact.com.au.

The department will be open over the summer break. Contact sexdep@anu.edu.au or 6125 8514. That's it for me. I'll take this chance to introduce my successor, David Mills - I'm sure he'll do a great job next year, and anything you may have heard is only hearsay.

Have fun - and fuck safely.

David Mills Sexuality Officer



Woroni 2003 is officially over.
But before we trip off into
the sunset, we thought we'd
introduce ourselves.

DIY Woroni

Thom Mackey - Editor

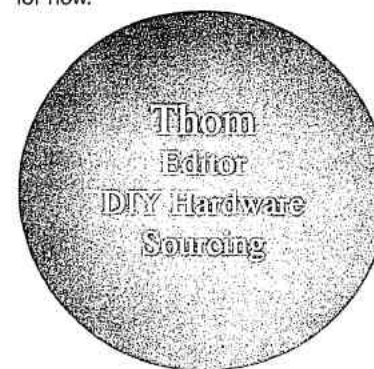
Right. Fuckin' Rightio then boys and girls, at long last I get to rant about shit that ain't important, and ain't meant to be nuffin other than self-indulgent, allowing me to throw away any hopeless justification for any other "articles" I may have written. Here we fuckin' go. I've only really been here for half of this year due to a certain communist government wanting lots of english speakers to go and train their people to be as useful in the future as they possibly can be, all the while instilling them with a sense of nationalism that can only result in total world domination. Anyway, I wasn't here and while I was away Ali and Nich did a mighty job of upholding this fine publication on their own shoulders, and an ultra-big up to them for that. They still do a mighty fine job of keeping us on-keel, thank christ, because despite being co-editor lord knows I never actually know what's going on. Seriously, this whole damn year I've just been playing it by ear without actually being aware of what's happening, which is pretty remarkable for someone who's supposed to

be a "journalist." Woroni has been fun, although a massive time sink, much more than I expected, but it's definitely been worthwhile. I guess that's just what happens when you let the Dao take its course - it all balances out in the end. Ta to everyone for tolerating our crap this year, even more ta if you actually went so far as to enjoy it, and the utmost ta if you were good enough to actually bother to write anything for us, especially our sub-editorial team who've been ab fab. Ta to the good publicity companies who made the timesink worthwhile by supplying me with free crap - it's not like I do this *just* out of the goodness of my heart, you know. Good work to the Adams who will take over the reins



of this rag and bend it to their will. Farewell campus readers, it's been fun. I'm something of a sucker for punishment, though, and I did only get half a year in, so you may not have seen the last of me around here... just a note of warning. I'll go out with a timeless geek quote - If you strike me down, I will only become more powerful than you could

possibly imagine. Or summat like that. Keep it real, y'all. Thom Out... for now.



Nich Farrelly Editor - Features and Letters

Naked butts made people angry...somebody punching out their friend for money didn't. The details of putting together something as public and potentially controversial as Woroni are always interesting. Unfortunately you won't hear most of them from me. What you will hear is that this year we began with the assertion that many different kinds of people come to this University - it is a diverse place. From the beginning some people find that hard to cope with. As the student magazine it means that we are happy to print your stuff...very happy. Everybody who wrote letters and features this year gets a very hearty pat on the back. There have been some great ones. Writing something for your student newspaper might sometimes seem intimidating - some people think that we only print things from some "un-defined" clique. Actually, we printed almost anything from almost anyone! If you wrote to Woroni asking to contribute I probably wrote back and said that features would be printed if we thought them "informative, entertaining and

original". Anyway, I did my best to facilitate contributions from diverse corners of the campus. If you didn't get your stuff in then send it in for next year...Woroni always needs good content! Making my time as Editor - Features and Letters much easier throughout the year was Ali. She stuck it out and made Woroni into something really worthwhile. She dealt with all of the bitching, non-performance, and issues

"arising" with aplomb. Many times Woroni was put together by late nights and an inability to say "enough" or "It's too late". Together, everybody in Woroni 2003 has made a contribution to making the ANU better informed and more fun. From my end - taking photos,

talking through ideas and getting content on the page - it has generally been great fun. Hopefully we have challenged, entertained and informed you. ...next year, get involved!

Nich
Editor
DIY
Armed
Robbery





Ali Jenkins - Editor

If you care to look, being a Woroni Editor gives you extraordinary insight into student society. Although I could never gauge whether an issue had bombed or floated, my year was made interesting by the intrigues that punctuated my residency in the Students' Association building. I heard lots of things that I couldn't print, although they're things that students deserve to know. I witnessed rallies and meetings where students fought bitterly and used contradictory and spiteful means to convey their point. I met people who spent a hell of a lot of time trying to convince others that they were right, but never any time listening to anyone

else. Editing Woroni carries excitement and information, but more baggage than a 747. Good luck to Adam and Adam who will be next year's porters of doom. Being Editor has had its low points, mainly losing my co-editor for six months, getting sued, and being threatened by crazies. But there have been some fabulous people along the way to keep things rolling. Woroni's sub-editors have been a joy to work with. I owe Adam, Adam, Alice, Jess and Fern at least a drink or three each. I have to thank Maciej and Lucy especially for trying new stuff and being generally good-humoured about everything. Dana's great advertising management meant that we never had to worry about financing Woroni. Stephen Still has saved my arse so many times that it's just not funny. Michelle McWilliam is an asset

to the Students' Association and Woroni. I know Woroni usually bitches about the censors but this year DSP has been unusually reasonable, so thanks to Mocca, Trish and David for their patience and willingness to hear our side. David Mills deserves special thanks for being so supportive when the shit came down about naked scav-hunters. My sister, Peri Jenkins, will shortly be receiving a jumbo bucket of Malteser's for putting up with me all year. The one person who deserves the most thanks, but whom I'll never be able to thank enough is Nich Farrelly. I quit at least three times this year and each time he hauled me back in. He always made time to listen to and encourage contributors and photograph the most obscure events. His faith in the importance of student media makes me feel like I'm not wasting my time, or your money. From what I hear, Ali Jenkins is a fat thirty-year-old communist career student. For what it's worth, she's not. But thanks for asking.

Ali
Editor
DIY
Tattooing



Maciej Wasilewicz - News Editor

Light shines from the end of the tunnel of another year at the ANU. Six years is too much and hardly enough. Funny thing to take on the role of News Editor in my final year, my thesis year. What made me do it? Maybe the fluff from the trees has finally gotten to me after all. Basically when I approached Ali last year I had yet another urge to get involved more at university. Ridiculous really, I should have had enough. But oops I did it again, and

I guess, as with everything else, there are no regrets.

I encourage anyone who is interested in writing to approach next years team. *corny mode on* You know, Woroni is only ever as good as we all make it *corny mode off*.

I want to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to all the contributors that made my year workable. Nikki McPherson, Petar

Milenkovic, Madeline Moss, Dana Quick, Patrick Delaney, Simon Stanstreet and many others contributed much of their free time to produce articles for the news that were well researched and well written.

Thanks also must go to Ali and Thom the tireless editors. Not only did they manage the team well, they were always there to help when it was needed and generally came up with great ideas that made the paper what it is today. Nich must also get a special mention. Not as an editor, but as a damn nice guy, he contributed enormous amounts of his free time (also in his thesis year - not a burden for an organised intelligent guy like himself) to making the pictures, laying out the paper, and also being Features Editor.

Finally thanks to the rest of the team (I love you guys), Mocca (well done champ) and Michelle, who we all wish well in her new role as mother to her child (instead of adopted mother to us all at the Students' Association). Cheers to all the readers, I hope you found my news pages and interviews entertaining and good luck everyone in exams.

Maciej
News Editor
DIY Horticulture

Alice Allan - Opinion and Cult Editor

Finally, the article I have been waiting all year to write, my indulgence piece! Where to begin. Issue one would be a logical place to start, I suppose. Few people know Woroni's first issue was actually written and put together by a grand total of three people, one of them on a deadline to leave for China three days before publication, and the other two having no idea how to use any of the software necessary for making a magazine. But it did come together in the end. Unfortunately, we don't seem to have learned anything over the last ten issues in terms of not leaving things until the last possible second as we did for issue one. Case in point: here am I on a Sunday afternoon, when I really should be studying or perhaps even having a vague social life, but no, I have in fact procrastinated away writing this until the day before we send this to print. Again.

But it hasn't been all bad. We've had our share of laughs in the Woroni office too (none of which I'm able to remember, possibly a result of the amount of alcohol involved at the time...). Above all it has been immensely satisfying to know my work is appreciated by the people who have come up to me and commented

on my articles (thank you, both of you). Being co-editor of opinion has at times been extremely stressful, as we are in charge of the section which publishes the most-likely-to-get-Woroni-sued material. Thankfully, I have had the best people possible to work with, and special thanks must go to Jess Giovanelli, my co-editor who kept me sane throughout, and to my wonderful editors Ali and Thom. Raspberries to Dom for being the most unreliable contributor on the face of the earth, and kudos to Chris Prunty for being so the opposite of Dom. Everyone who contributed (and didn't get us in legal difficulties) deserves a big pat on the back.

As you may or may not know, I am also the person in charge of the "cult" page (or "cult-ish" as it has come to be known, as I have progressively run out of cult-worthy ideas and resorted to mainstream stuff which I just happen to like). I would like to thank everyone who contributed here as well, you made my life so much easier. It is with a mixture of sadness and relief that I sign off for the last time in the pages of Woroni. Good luck next year Adam and Adam, may your deadlines forever be far-off.

Woroni has been a ship of fun this year – not least because of the fabulous crew who sailed in her. Some of the nicest people in the world (not me) seem to spend much of their time in the Woroni office, sequestered and beavering. Sometimes we had to lock the door to stop the crazy man from harassing us too much with conspiracy theories about the Vietnam War that he wanted us to publish, but that was fine (if a little stuffy).

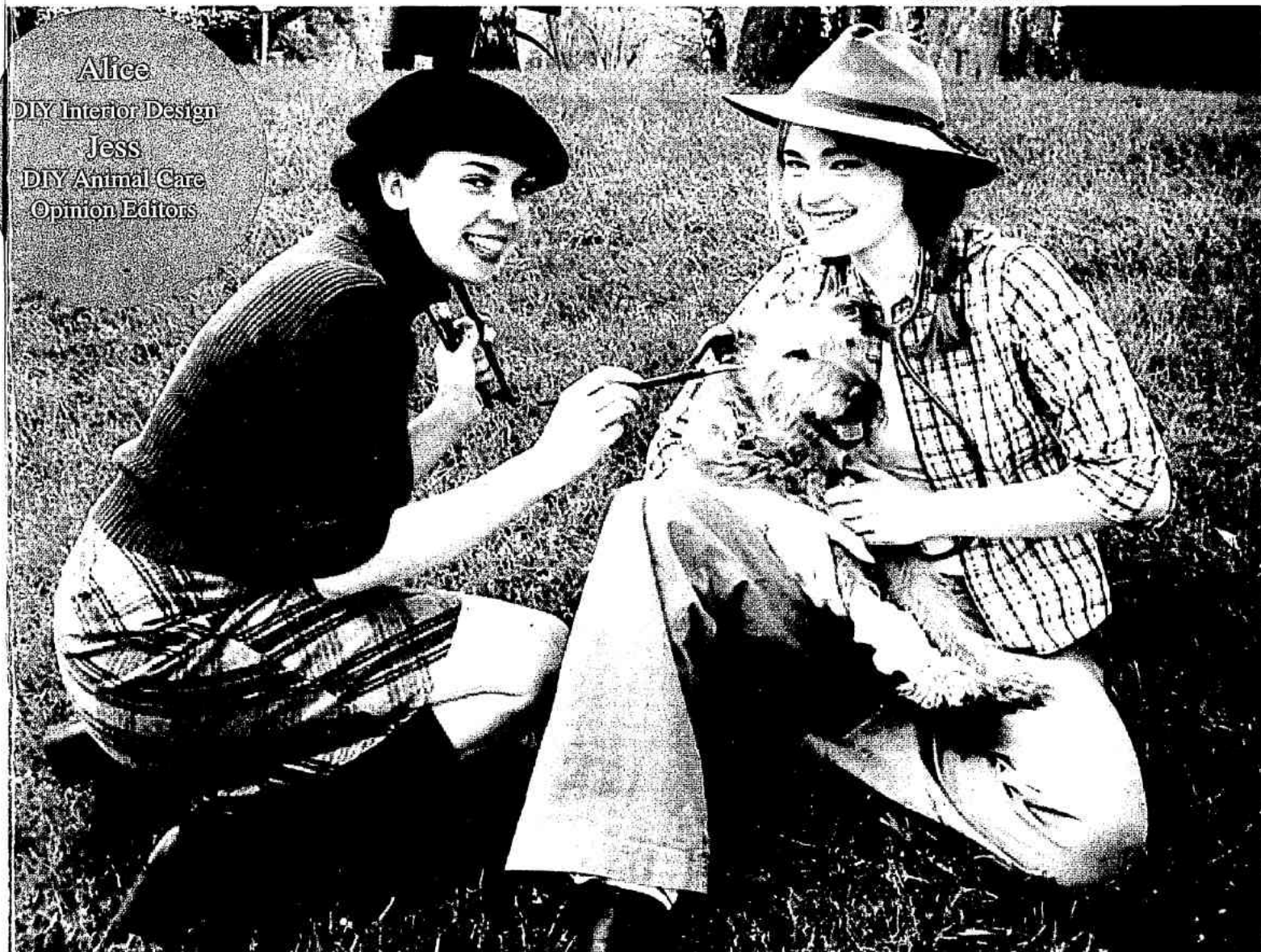
The highlight? Probably the foray into the seedy underworld that is civvies night which yielded the article on ADFA opinions on the war. In the name of Woroni, Alice and I were practically sexually assaulted in our quest to find these opinions (not by the nice ADFA boys though) so I hope you appreciated them. The lowlight was pretty much nearly getting sued. Yeah, that kinda sucked. Especially when I realised I knew nothing about defamation and really wished I'd listened in Torts.

Jess Giovanelli - Opinion Editor

Ali and Thom rock – they are delightful and conscientious and have been a pleasure to have in the class, likewise Nich and Fern and Lucy and Brodes and Hornsey. Good luck to the Adams for next year! But most of all, where on earth would I, or this section, be if it weren't for the Beautiful, lovely Alice, most kind and faithful of all sub-co-opinion-editors.

O Woroni
Thank thee for the fun that hath
been had
Forfooth, the deferred ftudief,
The crazy nightf spent in
contemplation
Of the ADFA boyf at yonder Holy
Grail.
Bleff thee for delivering the lovely
Alice unto me
af co-editor
for tif indeed fhe who haf done the
lionf fhare of work
Bleff thee and keep thee
My love aboundf for thee
I am thy humble fub-editor of the
fection known af Opinion,

Jeffica Giovanelli



Alice
DIY Interior Design
Jess
DIY Animal Care
Opinion Editors



Dana Quick - Advertising Manager

experience the joy of advertising, but such a noble aim was very, very quickly superceeded by hanging out with these guys. Another reason for signing up was to improve my computer skills. But, no. I still cant place the ads, or properly save ad files, get badly written indulgence pieces in on time, or anything. Ali and Thom have been

would have to be the Pope Mobile (aka the electric cars that sneak up behind you on the ANU footpaths and scare the crap out of you). I have been mildly obsessed with driving one of those things for a couple of years now. Alas, only Maciej is allowed to drive it. But I got to ride in it and wave to the people (we saw about 5). It was all very exciting and a useful reminder that dreams can come true if you just wish hard enough. Here is a random list of stuff... Bad: crap macs, people who don't pay invoices promptly, people who don't pay at all (you know who you are), me being 'delayed' with the invoicing in the first place... Good: my Robbie Williams tix, not getting sued, maciej asking everyone what their fave sammy was (just because I found it interesting), ANU ducks, gossin' with Ali, TROGDOR, hanging with Michelle, having cash to pay for my trip to Bali... So in summary, the Woroni kids are cool, funny, smart, beautiful people (nothin' says sexy like working on a student newspaper) who have been great to party with for the last year. Love you all, Dana xx

Dana
Advertising Manager
DIY Car Maintenance

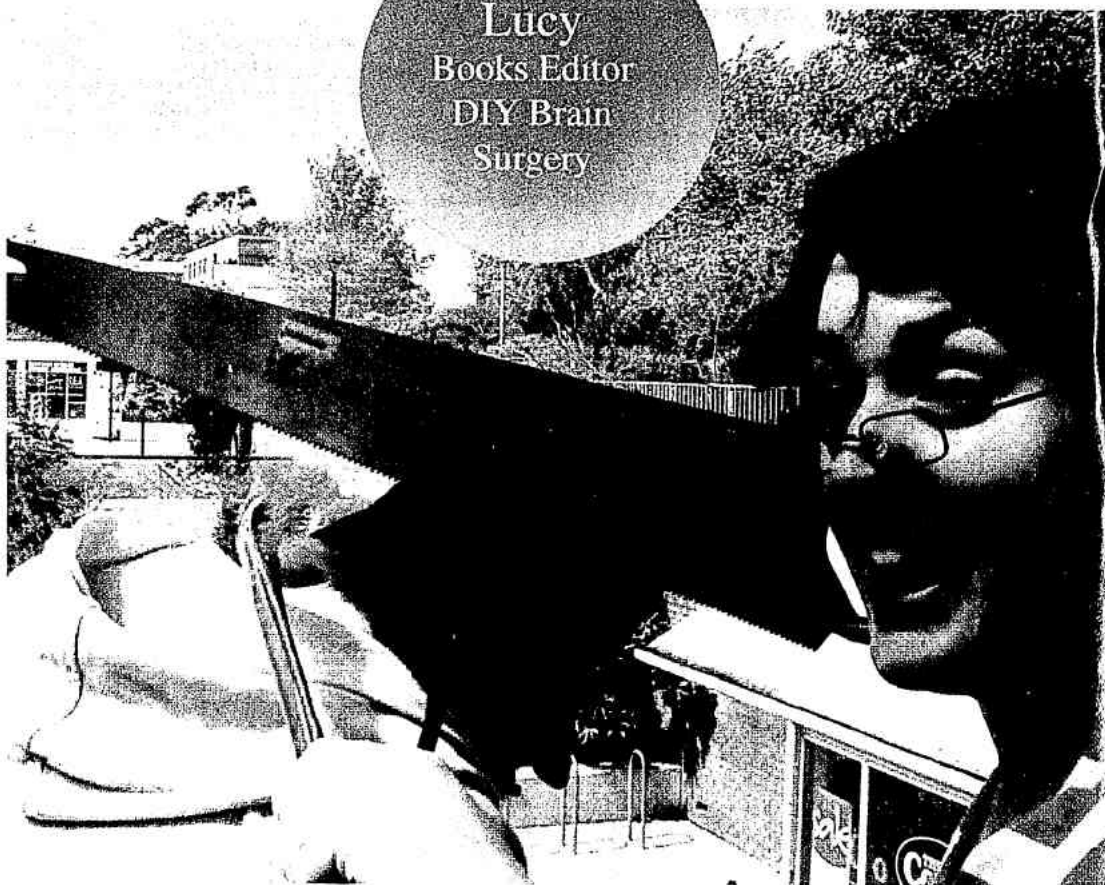
Last night (Sunday) Ali rang me to ask where my piece was (due last thursday). I said I would get it in today (far, far too late). You know what though? She was so awesomely cool about it. And that is pretty much the best-est thing about Woroni 2003 - how great all of the people are. You thought the press gang people were cool, well the Woroni kids are cooler (especially Thom in his Uncle Fester jacket). Initially, I agreed to the advertising caper so that I could

covering me for the whole year, and not even complained to my face. So, cool. I will however point out (as an eternal dig at Stephen Still) that macs are crap. There are a multitude of reasons for this but the overarching theme is that they are unwieldy, crash-prone beasts who go out of their way to make things difficult for you. As such, I blame them for the fact that I didn't do any layout work all year. It had nothing to do with my incompetence. A highlight of the year

Lucy Clynes - Books Editor

People are often frightened by the idea of performing neurosurgery at home. I'm often asked, "but Lucy how will I get the stains out?" Well fear not, Napisan works wonders on grey-matter. With the Christmas Season upon us and so many family functions to attend, now's the perfect time of year to transform 'nagging Aunty Nora' into 'napping Aunty Nora'. Firstly, I would like to thank Marc, Elizabeth, Jodi, Ali, Paul, Michael, Thom, Nich, Katherine (Karen), Mel, Alice, Bowen Lafayette and Stephanie Mannok for being such excellent reviewers. You may now keep your books! I would like to thank everyone who rang me two days after every deadline to tell me that the deadline was two days ago. Although I'm an unbiased reporter, I would like to thank all the publishers (especially Random House) who sent us books throughout the year, including whoever it was who sent us four copies of a Thomas Keneally book we literally couldn't give away! I would like to thank De Jour Tampons for the ever-useful contraceptive pill holders. Thanks Thom for putting petrol in my car and scanning my books and a special thanks to Nich and Ali for being my lay-out fairies.

Lucy
Books Editor
DIY Brain Surgery



My

A
B
N

My Wealth



Adam H
Satire Editor
DIY Financial
Planning

Adam Brodie-McKenzie - Music Editor

My first contribution to Woroni was a feature concerned, rather contentiously I thought, about the commercialism of alternatives. I have ended up being the sub-editor of the section that probably exemplifies this hypocrisy more than any other: Music. That's right, I sold out...and I loved every minute of it. The great thing about being music editor is quite simply all the free stuff you can scam. And scam I did. In the immoral words of Thom Mackey, "What you don't realise is that if you want something you will get it." Free CDs, talking to famous people, getting free tickets to concerts and festivals. And at the end of the day you never feel bad about it because you know that no matter how hard you try the promoters you are dealing with are ripping you off far more than you are them as you give them free advertising. But hey, who cares if you get a free CD, right? Right. This is the Circle of Scam. Despite the general love of writing and seeing your name in bold letters for five people to see, scamming is definitely an inherent part of what I like to call Woroni. I promised myself I wouldn't mention this but then I promise myself a lot of things. I am going to be co-Editor next year and I put it to anyone who likes stuff for free to get in contact

with us and give it a crack. Even if you don't like writing, or even better if you do, just get involved and I am sure we can find you something...even if it is a pen. I was one of those people that said, wouldn't it be nice to be a part of the student newspaper and did nothing. All it took was walking through the door. And look at me now! I walk through doors all the time! Of course, if you do want to contribute, we would like you to be semi-literate. Well, actually we'd like you to be hugely creative, poignant, poetic and entertaining at the same time but you can only hope for so much...literacy will suffice. Another great thing about working for this institution, as corny as it sounds, are the people you get to meet, whether famous or otherwise. Although chumming it up, possibly a little too much for any human being, with Wil Anderson was fun, getting to know the crew has been interesting as well. I am also one of those bizarre people that find the intricacies of how things work interesting and I have learned far more about the music industry and just the world of publicity than I thought I ever would. In short it's been emotional, it's been real and, perhaps somewhat masochistically, I look forward to doing it all again in 2004.

Adam Hornsey - Satire Editor

Satire Editor Has Indulgence Piece and Finds it Hard Not to Sound Too Self-Indulgent; Headline Out of Place, Contains Too Many Direct Quotes

There was uproar today as the satire editor for Woroni in 2003, Adam Hornsey, had an indulgence piece where he could talk about himself, rather than repeatedly make fun of phrases and reverse trends in made-up satire articles.

"Ha ha ha ha ha (onomatopoeic laughing sounds)," he said, "bankruptcy for yet another," before he realised he wasn't meant to be writing this indulgence piece as his lifestyle character, namely Paul Clitheroe.

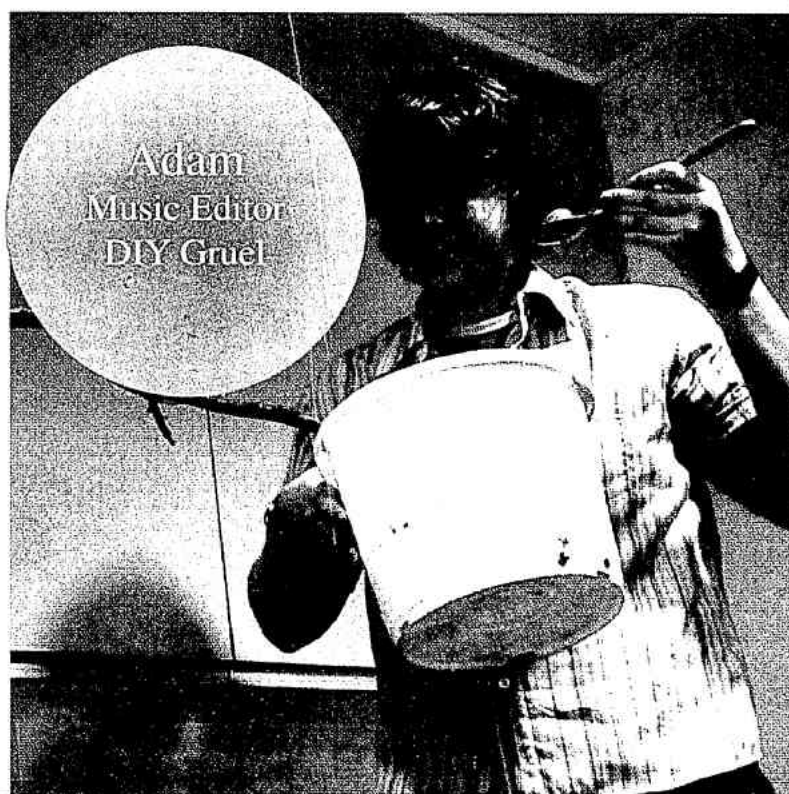
"Oh wait," he said, once he realised, "we're not meant to be writing this indulgence piece as our character, ha ha ha ha ha (although I do enjoy money.)" "It was September last year," he continued, "when I read my first issue of Woroni and soon afterwards when I decided to get involved (remember, as some slogan says, anyone can do that.) The usual thing is to blame alcohol for this involvement, but as I don't drink, I can't, so I'll have to blame a sincere interest in writing satire." "As the satire sub-editor this year," he droned on, "I was rather different from many others - as well as being better of course, I took a rather dramatic sub-editing role,

namely writing everything. While this ensured I had dictatorial powers and could indulge my humour-veiled opinions and warp student minds (I really don't need this piece, just read pages 36-39), it also meant I had to do a lot of typing, much of it on stupid Macs." "It's customary to end an article," he continued as I motioned for him to stop, "such as this with thankyous, but as I didn't get any free stuff or many contributions I won't.

I also won't wish Brodes (Adam Brodie-McKenzie) good luck as co-editor next year because I talk to him too much already," he said, adopting a conclusive tone. "If you can hear this, you're trying too hard," he whispered finally, before stopping.

Mr. Hornsey's fictional aide, Marcel Johnson, said Mr. Hornsey was looking forward to next year, had had fun and learnt a great deal this year, and was looking forward to having greater control over student's minds and spending more of their money next year. Mr. Johnson also said Mr. Hornsey would like to thank everyone in Woroni for their help and hard work - Ali and Nich, and then Thom, for excellent editing, and the other Woroni people (you'll see them indulging) and those few people that made an effort to contribute to satire (you know who you are, so that should give you enough pleasure without having to be credited.)

He then offered some kind of farewell on behalf of Mr. Hornsey.



Adam
Music Editor
DIY Gruel



JANUARY NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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29						

DECEMBER FEBRUARY

SummerFest '04

Well, with Uni nearly over, that big fat 4-month hot sweaty sometimes-dull void is upon us again. It will suck you in with wild parties, vegging out on the couch, long hours at the beach and more availability for your work, and leave you slightly mind-numbed, wanting something proper to focus on, and needing an injection of thorough enjoyment in your life.

Enter: Festivals. Summer is a great time in the Aussie music scene, with many of the country's most prominent festivals occurring in those hottest of months. International and Local acts come out of the woodwork, showing their faces to their adoring crowds and generating mounds of desperately-needed relief from the summer bludgefest. From out of this myriad of music bonanzas (bonanzae?) two in particular stand out: The chilled-est, the Falls Festival, and the biggest, the aptly named Big Day Out.

Big Day Out 04

The Big Day Out, as you are no doubt aware, is arguably the biggest opportunity that the Australian public gets to see their favourite international bands. It is perennially looked forward to by thousands of musos, everyone from metal-heads to ravers, 14-year-old Avril Lavigne-lookalike "sk8r grrls" to 48-year-old whacked-out ex-rockers that loved the Stones and are trying desperately to stay in with the scene - or just want to perve on the aforementioned 14-year-olds. The reason for this mass hysteria is that chances are the Big Day Out lineup will contain pretty much every band you like that's released an album this year, as well as a huge international act that hasn't been to this country for 15 years, if ever, and will be sure to be the main reason for 50% of tickets bought. Considering the scarcity of decent touring international acts (in fact, any touring international acts) in our land of sweeping plains, such an event truly is cause for adulation for anyone interested in music.

Some people don't like festivals, and I respect that. They say it's far too crowded, the food and drink is marked up exorbitantly and the lines for the toilets (and the beer

tents) are hours long. To them I say, "Phooey," for the Big Day Out is not like other festivals. The crowds are huge but so are the venues, so you've always got a (relatively) quiet space to collapse and scull water after your 3-hour mosh. Speaking of the water, it's free - in fact there are free dousing houses to get soaked in if that's your thing. The food is a little pricey due to the captive audience factor but at least there's always a good variety and you can usually find something cheap, as long as you don't mind eating Dhal all day.

The queues aren't nearly as bad as other places due to the liberal sprinklings of toilets and beer tents across the venue. All in all, the BDO is a lot better than other festivals (cough cough Livid cough cough) due to the extra space and happy vibe.

The lineup this year conforms to the usual standards: the Huge International Act That Never Tours In Australia this year is the mighty Metallica. Need I say more. The bands that are big this year are the Strokes, The Dandy Warhols and the Flaming Lips, great bands one and all and not to be missed. Also included in



Above: Join the hordes of screaming girls at next year's Big Day Out and you too could get your photo in Woroni!

the main international set are The Mars Volta (the remains of At The Drive-In), the Black Eyed Peas and Peaches (the rockiest of all chick rockers). The huge local acts are also pretty impressive, with Something for Kate, the Hoodoo Gurus (old skool, anyone?),

The Datsuns (well okay they're not quite local), Gerling, Jet, Trey (aussie hip-hop queen extraordinaire), Downsyde, the Butterfly Effect and Magic Dirt all joining in on the fun.

Another reason the BDO is so hugely popular is that it doubles as a rave. The Boiler Room provides a 12-hour ear-whopping to all those who would bear it, and often has some of the more noteworthy bands involved. The trend is continued this year, with the ever-popular Basement Jaxx starring, and the ever-popular-to-those-who-know-about-him Aphex Twin riding shotgun. These two alone would be more than enough to tear the room apart, but there are many more acts to be announced both for the Boiler Room and the main lineup.

If you're convinced, then tix for the Sydney show (Jan 23) are available now for \$96, and you can get them from Ticketmaster 7, Landspeed, or www.bigdayout.com. If a hundred bucks seems like a bit of a stretch, then get someone to buy it for you for Christmas - an Aussie tradition in itself - or just use the upcoming 3 months to earn yourself enough money! It's not like it ain't worth it.

The Falls

One of the things Canberrans often dread more than eagerly anticipate is the debacle that is New Year's Eve. There is never *anything* on in Canberra, ever. You know I'm right. Unless you want to go into Civic and get harassed, abused, beaten up and vomited on, or some shitty club that's throwing a party with dodgy local DJs and more underage fly girl wannabes than Universal Studios on the day of 50 Cent's new video auditions, you're left with a demure barbie at your mate's place or perhaps just a quiet night in pretending you don't care. The only viable alternative for Canberrans is to go interstate, make a road trip out of it, and have some fun. For a road trip one usually needs a destination - so why not have that destination be one of the best Aussie road trips possible: the Great Ocean Road. And while you're on said road, why not stop by the chilled-est music festival this side of Woodstock, and have yourself a fine, dandy and generally sublime New Year's Eve at The Falls Festival.

So, the chilled-est, you ask? What makes me say that, you ask? Well, it's pretty simple really. The Falls Festival is totally chilled. I would say "Phooey" again to all those that think they're smart and mention Splendour or the Folkie, as they are not in summer and therefore don't qualify. But I digress. The fact of the matter is that the Falls Festival is more of a festival than any other music event - it hasn't just

got a great selection of live music, it's got movies, comedy, markets, massage tents, various soul-satisfying clinics and workshops. If you think it wouldn't be enough to take in on one day, then you're in luck, because the whole damn deal of the Falls is the camping. It's on New Year's Eve for a reason and half the fun is making mates with your new campsite neighbours. Summer too hot? Head down to the beach - just a few minutes away from the campsite!

If it all sounds too good to be true then spare a thought for our Tasmanian siblings. We all know they don't get any action... musically at least! Boom boom! Sorry - I digress again. You think we're poorly off - at least we don't have to cross an ocean to go to Sydney or Melbourne to see the big acts. Well imagine the relief that THEY must be feeling now, because... drumroll please... Falls is going to Tassie!

All those that know anything about me will already know that I'm a rampant supporter of Tasmania in all forms. People, places, cheese, apples, lavender, obscure marsupials, that's one little island that's got it all. And now you can thoroughly enjoy all the Apple Isle's splendour - in festival form. All the acts, all the markets, all the joy and friendliness is all making its way down to Beautiful Marion Bay in Tasmania - and I can say it's beautiful because

It's the most incredible setting to have some of the wonderful music of summer played live - and a damn good excuse to get down south o' the border and take in some more of the wonderful island.

As for the bands themselves, they might not be as impressive at first read as the Big Day Out lineup (due to the slightly smaller budget of the younger festival) but they're easily as good when you hear them. On the international front there is the single most suitable band ever for such a chilled festival - the mighty Michael Franti & Spearhead. Simply sublime, no? To provide a healthy balance are the anything-but-chilled Pennywise also out from the USA with their punky ska friends Reel Big Fish. Also on the damn huge bill are Groove Armada, Dallas Crane, Degrees K, The Pictures, Riff Random, Dan Kelly, Dexter, Turin Breaks, G Love & Special Sauce, The Mess Hall, Krafty Kuts, Xavier Rudd, our very own Paul Kelly, Ozomatli, The newly-popular Waifs, Cog, Trey, The Beautiful Girls and Mason Jennings - and that's only the first announcement.

So, if you've convinced yourself you want to go south for the summer, you can go and buy your tickets from Ticketmaster 7 or online at www.fallsfestival.com. The pricing and other outlets are not yet finalised at time of print, so keep an eye out for more details.

Well then kiddies, I hope this little guide helps you to add some musical spice to your long drawn-out summers. I can heartily personally recommend both of these fine festivals and if you go I would love to see you there, as I'll certainly be heading along - I'll be the one with the guest passes! Thanks for bothering to read this far and I hope to see you there. Ciao Ciao!

...the festival

The world according to

WORONI

The Best - and Worst - moments of 2003, called as we've seen 'em.

We chose a pretty shitty year for doing a best & worst - there ain't a whole lot good in the world this year. What with all the wars, corruption, apathy and shitty weather, there aren't that many huge world events worth celebratin'. But it's worth a try, and so we'll do a Woroni-focused version instead. And so, the best things in Woroni land this year:

Getting 10 3/4 issues out. While you might say "well no shit," this does feel like a decent achievement to us, and we're quite proud of it, so you can shut up.

Making it through the year without leaving any extra and restrictive regulation behind us for the editors of the future. No further censorship policies were put in place, no further guidelines were made for what is and isn't publishable, no black holes of administrivia for people to wade through. Trust us, it wasn't easy to make it through, but we did it, and with it we struck a small but important blow against the juggernaut of extreme political correctness and censorship. Go us.

Scav Hunt. The highlight of our controversial career, and a highly enjoyable day for most who watched it. Obviously some people were more easily offended than others, but it's always the 2 who complain

that forget that the other 8 love it. Anyway, we enjoyed it, and we're pretty sure you would have too.

All our comrades here in the SA building. While we are usually the only ones here after 10pm, there are many diligent executive officers and administrative staff who keep us company - deserving special mention are Stephen Still, who keeps our computers - the heart of Woroni - running smoothly; Michelle and the "new girl" Tamara, who keep our mail and other such things in order; David Mills and Mocca, who are often here at weird times and aren't afraid to come down to our end of the SA to say hello and share in our pain.

Ahhhh, worst. Whoever said it was easier to be negative (I think it was pretty much everyone) got it right. There are quite a few things which we could totally pick up on. But, to spare you the pain, we've tried to narrow it down to at least a few.

The War on Terror. Sure, maybe killing innocents isn't the best way to get your message across - no matter what your message is - but that doesn't mean that certain superpowers should use it as an excuse to discriminate against an entire race of people, and to create more fear and paranoia to keep the citizens in check. Next time you hear something about Terrorists or Terrorism, try replacing those words with Communists or Opium Barons. If it sounds like an example of 50s propaganda, then chances are it is. We read this on John Pilger's site.

Getting Sued. Well, we didn't actually get sued, but we came pretty close a couple of times (by the Union of all places). Thanks to today's political climate, pretty much anything can be seen as offensive. Good to know all you Law Students will have a nice profitable job when you graduate.

Censorship. The expectation that the diversity of views and opinions on campus can be arbitrarily controlled has always been a problem for Woroni editors. Woroni is, by its very nature, likely to incite the wrath of those who fear free expression and the magazine's capacity to show what is going on. This year the spectre of "cultural" and "ethical" censorship has often come to the fore. What proponents of such "culture" and "ethics" often fail to grasp is that Woroni cannot and must not be beholden to any culture or set of ethics. We must all live and work together. This is why we would hope to be exposed to all cultures and ethics. There is no monopoly on good, fun or the truth.

The various interest groups that have tried to censor and censure Woroni this year have, at heart, admirable goals. They want to protect the interests of their groups and the veracity of their beliefs. They could have better advanced their agendas by writing criticism and commentary rather than anonymous hate-mail. Of course, we print both. Them's our rules!



Above: Even Maynard thinks censorship is dumb.



Sherry, Heel Balm and Squid... what a glorious life we lead!

ANU OPEN DAY

Horoni's Year of Pro-tos 2003... Fun For All the Ferr...!

Tufactol Heel Balm
Prescribe Tufactol for yourself... if you can!

B E E R

The Ultimate (until we do a sequel) Index of Beer Compiled (in drunkenness) by Katrina Heinjus and Juan David

The beers tasted are merely an iota of the full premium beer options available to the keen drinker, given the reception of this article we will be looking to expand our sample so that it incorporates all Dan Murphies has to offer. Although this provides a guide, remember nothing can beat drinking for yourself!

Asahi (5%)

Amazingly a beer with no aftertaste at all, the flavour falls on the tongue and disappears as quickly as fairy floss. An intriguing brew, definitely worth tasting. I will also commit myself to buying any further Japanese beers I find on sale.

Budwiser (4.9%)

Inspid, colourless, flavourless, the Monty Python boys summed it up best when they said American beer is like making love in a canoe - it's fucking close to water.

Bitburger (4.8%)

Like being lightly stabbed in both cheeks by a poor tasting pixie. Doesn't taste like beer but makes the side of your mouth tingle.

Breznak (5.1%)

Bottle and mascot from the 19th century, Breznak is the epitome of class or at least vintage. Wood chips seem to have found their way into the mix at some point although the flavour surfaces long after the initial consumption. The beer is generally smooth although the aftertaste of woodchips is slightly disconcerting.

Carbine Stout (5.1%)

Ensure you don't read the bottle before drinking this, as it suggests that a horse's pedigree may be involved in the brewing process. If you still manage to brave the flavour, you will wish you had opted for a lighter stout. A beer that tastes like marmite is disconcerting, especially when you consider what this overpowering flavour may be hiding.

Carlton, Low Joule Beer (4.6%)

Predispositions are not easy to lose when a beer advertises itself in the same categories that made lollies lose their flavour and appeal. And, as expected, a twenty-percent lowering of energy leads to a much greater loss in the essence of beer. If you just want to get drunk, drink vodka - if you want to enjoy it, drink real beer.

Clausthaler (0%)

At this point, it is important to warn the true beer drinker to CHECK ALL LABELS CAREFULLY!!!!!! Some companies will try and sell you a non-alcoholic beer by putting this VERY IMPORTANT FACT in very small writing in an unnoticeable spot. To the companies that do this, please don't, this is not the first time I've made this mistake. Fuckers.

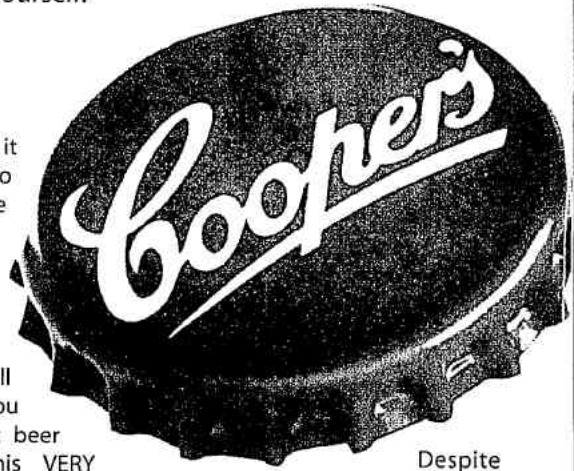
Coopers, Thomas (4.9%)

I now understand why Adelaide is so dull - no one goes out when they can enjoy this at home. For all insults I apologise, Adelaide - you have done something right. The friend of my friend can not be as bad as I first thought. A full, wholesome, friendly, flavour. I feel I have found a soulmate that even the obstacles of statism can not keep me from.

Dab Original (5%)

Original???? Germany, make a beer with personality already!!! Without concentrating this could be Stockage Premium, Holsten Premium, Hansa Pils, Steinlager or even San Miguel. Dab Original is almost as big an oxymoron as Microsoft Works.

Gösser, Dark Beer (4.2%)



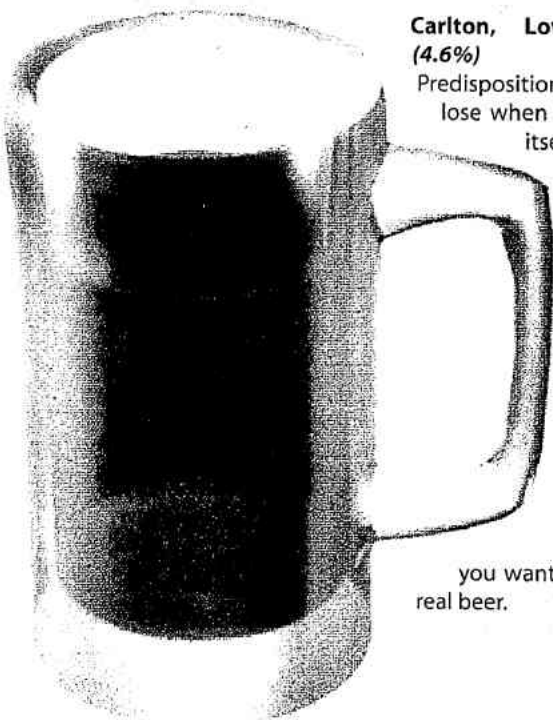
Despite a pretentious name (Australian beer wearing an umlaut!), the flavour is even through the range, unexciting but solid. It manages to bypass the usual bitter aftertaste associated with dark ales while retaining the warmth.

Guinness (4.3%)

The bottled version tasted here is not for the true lover or connoisseur. The problem with Guinness arises also from its main strength, nitrogen bubbles. The upshot is that they are much finer leading to a smoother beer (and a disconcerting one where the bubbles go down), but they do not have the shelf life of carbon dioxide bubbles. The solution is to get it on tap if you can, bottled and canned Guinness are best drunk in memory of real Guinness but not worth it in their own right, unless you want to collect floating widgets.

Hansa Pils, (4.8%)

Only Mountain Dew and banana Yogo can claim a more artificial yellow colour. Like many of the German beers we have reviewed, the anticipation



is the most exhilarating aspect of this beer, look at the bottle, pour a little to scare your friends but not worth drinking if you enjoy flavour.

Hobgoblin Extra Strong Ale (5.5%)

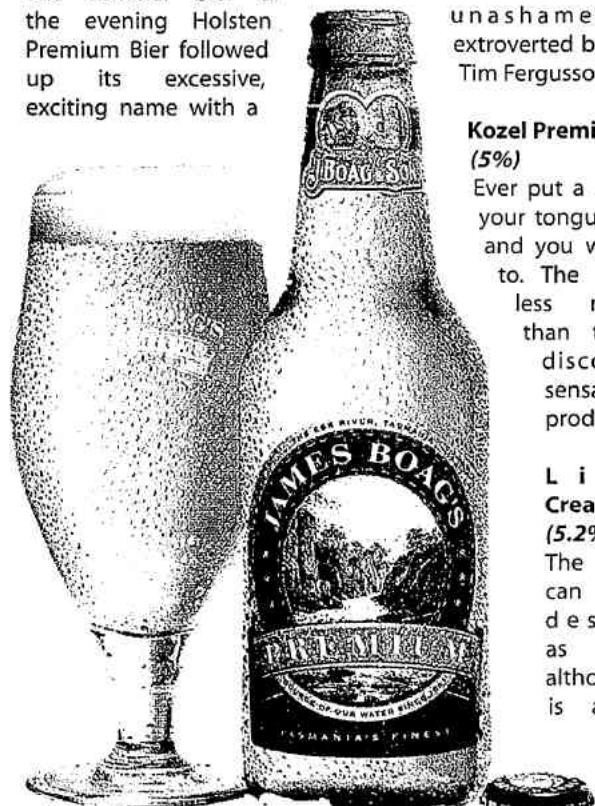
Already up there on marks due to name and packaging, some drinkers will find this even and unassuming for a dark ale. Some drinkers will also find this pushed to the back of their fridge. Considering the packaging, it was a relief that the beer was above average, that was all.

Holgate Brewhouse, Old Pale Ale (5%)

Out of a bottle bearing the monogram of a black bull comes a deep red liquid bearing a striking resemblance to bulls blood. If you manage to brave this gruesome comparison, a warm full flavour greets the palate ripe with fruity flavours culminating in an aftertaste, which may overwhelm some drinkers but to others will leave the throat warm. The stuff eloquence is made from!

Holsten Premium Beir (5%)

The seminal bier of the evening Holsten Premium Bier followed up its excessive, exciting name with a



minimal mild flavour, inoffensive, smooth and unassuming. A convenient entry point for virgins to the acquired taste of imported beer, we may use it later to brush our teeth in.

J. Boag's Original Bitter (4.7%)

Happiness and Love have found a convenient bottled home in the breweries of James Boag and Original Bitter has received even more of the mix that most. Unlike many of the premium beers tasted which lacked flavour, this is



metallic tinge to the malt.

Miller Genuine Draft (4.7%)

Maltier than a Maltese bodybuilder but equally as shallow, wish there was more to say

come home I will never mess with English beer again.

Power's Bitter (4.4%)

Very conservative for an Australian beer, flavour is quite scarce and that which there is, is quite rough. European in its timidity, it is much like a Latvian prostitute, hairy in all the wrong places but it gets the job done.

San Miguel (4.8%)

Heavily advertised, San Miguel has rapidly moved to the forefront of imported beer. The flavour is like making love to a super model - the idea is very exciting but there's really nothing there.

Stein Lager (5%)

Very smooth, very easy to drink but with good, full flavour. Despite this, it lacked stand-out qualities and personality. Its like a Volvo - you know its good but you wouldn't buy one.

Stockade Premium

Like Stein Lager but more abrupt. Flavour is very direct and not particularly smooth. Light flavour.



but the flavour is most short lived.

unashamedly extroverted but not in a Tim Fergusson way.

Kozel Premium (5%)

Ever put a battery on your tongue? Try this and you won't need to. The flavour is less remarkable than the oddly disconcerting sensation it produces.

Little Creatures (5.2%)

The flavour can best be described as malty although there is a distinct

Nastro Azzurro (5.2%)

A sharp fruity flavour like being stabbed by a native with a particularly sharp mango. And with such a high alcohol percentage (5.2%), you may wake up feeling the same way the next morning, sore head and without any shiny things.

Newcastle Brown Ale (4.7%)

The one and only, thankfully! Never have I been assaulted in such a cruel manner (internally at least. There was this one girl from Newhamptonshire... never mind). My tongue has become involved a court case for custody of my taste-buds which promptly emigrated after I tried this beer. If you see them, tell them that if they

There you have it, folks - all you need to know for all you need to drink for all the time you have for all the holidays! Happy Beering!



Lamb is one of the most respected and innovative electronic bands of recent times. Thom Mackey talks to Lou Rhodes, lead singer, about motherhood, music and piracy.

T: Did you have a nice show last night?

L: Yeah, it was really amazing. It was quite funny actually, 'cos we had lots of technical problems... none of our computers have been working since we came over here, I don't know why. Right at the very beginning of the set the song, which is *Darkness* from the new album, the first few chords came in and then it just cut out. (Laughs) And the whole point of that song is that it's kind of mysterious, making this very poignant entrance and we blew it completely... (laughs some more). Only, it was great, it was kind of like the whole show was a bit like that, we kept having problems with it but it just didn't matter, you know, the crowd was with us all the way. In a way it kind of made us closer to the crowd, you know, because they could see all

the things going wrong but it was still a great show.

T: So, tell me about the new album. I've read a couple of reviews (on the internet) and they talk about how it's a bit more... mature, I've heard the word mature. Would you agree with that?

L: Yeah, that's been said by quite a few people, which I'm quite happy about. I guess that's one of the words that I would choose to describe it, you know, I think it is quite grown up.

T: Yeah, I've heard you talking about how your first album was pre-teen, and then in *Fear of Fours* you were teenagers being angry at the world, and then with *What Sound* you were nice chilled out 20-somethings. Where would this one fit?

album echoes a lot of that, particularly in the lyrics. And I think when you're a kid or a teenager you just want life to be fun, you know, and when you get older you realise that part of the adventure is that it's that what teaches you, and it's that that makes everything so much more viable in life. And dealing with the shadow side of the personality is something that we all have to come up against at some point, it's always there.

T: Would you, I mean, I read when *Fear of Fours* came out you were talking a lot about the track *Allen*... Now that you've got your kids and they're out in the real world, has that changed your view on things, and has that influenced the album?

L: Yeah, it's hard to say in a direct way but having children has completely and utterly changed me. I don't think I would recognise myself before I had kids if I met face to face with who I used to be. I think having kids for me has been part of this transformational journey, of kind of discovering a lot of the dark side. I think we all have issues with our own parents, and when we become parents we come face to face with that. Not in the sense like "Oh god," I think in fact you probably learn to appreciate your parents a lot more when you experience it yourself, you realise what they went through. There's something about having kids that just challenges everything about your life, all the assumptions that you ever made.

T: So what other influences have changed the sound of this album? If you've changed your lyrics, if the inspiration for your lyrics has been life's journeys, what about Andy? Has his musical half been changed?

L: Yeah, I think in a lot of ways. I think Andy and I used to struggle a lot in the sense of the fact that when Lamb first formed he as really into instrumental electronic music. He didn't really like words. He was working with a vocalist and it was an experimental thing, like "let's see where we go with this," but he always saw vocals as just another instrument. You can hear that in a lot of our early albums, it's a battle for me



to get heard. I think there's been a lot of changes with him recently, like falling in love and now he's engaged, gonna get married. That kind of opening up of something for him has been really important. The way he appreciates his music in different ways, he's listening to a lot more vocal-based music. He'll actually choose to put on song-based music at his place, which just wouldn't have been heard of.

T: I guess that makes things a bit easier for you.

L: Yeah, it does, and I think again you can hear that on the album. That struggle is gone, and now we're working together to bring out the strength of the songs.

T: Yeah, well, like I said, I haven't been able to hear anything so I can't comment!

L: That's really bad that you haven't been sent a promo...

T: Just talking more on that, if you had your time over again, do you think you'd go with a major label? Has the record company been nice to you?

L: Well, um... we've had our struggles, definitely. Actually, the lovely thing was when we played Sydney last night, nearly the whole of the

Australian label came out to the show, and they were just really, genuinely excited. There was none of the kind of "yeah we really enjoyed it" but you knew they were just doing their job, and that was so refreshing to me, having people who were really into music and really enjoyed it. The sad thing is we don't seem to get that quite the same in England. There's a freshness in Australia that's been lost a bit over there. There's been many a time when we've thought about whether we should have signed with a major record label. One of our struggles is the fact that Universal is this huge label that has, you know, pop acts and then it has us, and we're not that kind of band. Especially in England where radio is really narrow, so it doesn't really work to promote us that way, and the frustration for us is they don't seem to try any other way of promotion. It just, it gets really frustrating. We see other bands that are contemporaries of us who have more laterally-thinking record companies and they get a very different kind of publicity.

T: I was reading, again, Andy talking about the internet, and the file-sharing stuff. I confess that seeing as they wouldn't send me an album I tried to get some tracks off the new album to listen

to before I talked to you, but there were none there. There were a couple of loop tracks, tracks where it's the first 30 seconds getting looped for 5 minutes.

L: Ahh, well I know for a fact that people have been downloading it...

T: So what's your view on that whole thing? I mean, is it good, or bad...?

L: I think it's... well, very mixed feelings, actually. It's limited, and that's not a bad thing. I think it's good if people can download stuff, some stuff and get a taster of the album, because so often I buy an album and I really don't like it. I think that would actually encourage people to buy albums, if you just get the taster and not the whole thing. I reckon if you hear something you've downloaded and you like it, you'll go and buy the album. Obviously there's the rest where people just go and download a whole album, so that's difficult in that you need to sell records to survive, and that is difficult. I wouldn't like to limit people's access to the internet, and I think it's really good that obviously there's a lot of companies now that you can download from and actually buy the download, which is, you know, another way of doing things. It's difficult when you've got



to mix commerce and art, because I'm all for as many people as possible hearing our music, but the fact is that if we don't sell records then we don't survive. (Laughs) We don't carry on doing what we do. So it's difficult, yeah.

T: So is there anything else you wanted to say about the album... Is there a particular message? I mean the other ones have sort of been themed to some degree, is there a theme for this one?

L: For me, this is probably our most... I don't know... I feel very self-expressed in this album. I feel like I've been honest. It's what I was going through as a human being, that's what people will hopefully hear and identify with. I think the joy of writing songs, writing lyrics, writing poetry for that matter, is the fact that it's not just a personal experience, it's actually what other people are feeling as well. They hear their own experiences. I think in the past people have thought of Lamb as being not in the real world, we're singing all these joyous songs, and there's plenty of joyous songs on the album but I think perhaps it's a more a balance of light and shade. Yeah, I'm really proud of the album.

T: Good!

L: Yeah, well, it's a good start really isn't it... (laughs)

T: Have you got any plans to come back to Australia for a holiday at some point?

L: Ooh, god knows, at the moment we're just dealing with day-to-day stuff, when we get back we've got heaps, heaps of stuff... I'm meant to be moving house, and whooooo! (sighs). We'll see what happens after Christmas.

T: Okay then, we'll let you get on, I hope you have a good time. Thanks heaps for talking to us.

L: No problem. Have a good one.



POWDERFINGER

Remember the competition we ran in issue 8? Where you could win Powderfinger tickets and CDs just for asking Bernard Fanning questions? Well, at LEAST two people entered, and they were the lucky winners who were supposed to have their questions answered by the 'Finger frontman. Unfortunately, he didn't answer all of them, but here are some others from around the nation. Enjoy!

GROK / PERTH UNI

After all your successful albums and the release of your latest has 'your happiness' crept back to you yet?

BF: Yes I am generally quite happy, I'm lucky that I've been involved in a band that has done so well over the last few years but that isn't always a measure of how happy you are. I'm relatively healthy and I live in my own house but I think, like everyone, I'm always looking for ways to improve myself.

QUT Utopia Magazine

What are you interested in besides politics and music? By Kristy Mitchell

BF: I'm interested in history, gardening, social

justice and cricket to mention just a few.

What are your thoughts on bands such as the Dixie Chicks who take an active political stance on issues. Do you agree with it or not?

By Jennifer Cutler

BF: I think every individual in every band is entitled to decide whether they want to speak out about things or not. When musicians or artists of any kind do make comment on these sorts of things is it just an opinion like any other person on the street. It doesn't have to be seen as some kind of manifesto or definitive way to look at things.

DELI RRA
(Darwin Uni)
Do

you have aspirations to move into acting?

BF: No. Have you ever seen any of our clips? I can't see a big future for myself there.

WORONI (ANU)

When do you feel like an artist, and when do you feel like a businessman? By Ben May

BF: I feel like an artist when I am sitting in my room downstairs writing a song or working on some lyrics. I feel like a businessman when we are at band meetings with our management or record company. I feel like a bludger when my friends ring me from work on Monday and I am sitting around reading the paper and having a cup of tea.

ENTROPY (University of Adelaide)
You

once likened music to a 'revolving door that moves in cycles'. How has this comparison impacted your songwriting and creative approach to Vulture Street?

By Ellaina Wigell

BF: I suppose that we have always taken a pretty traditional approach to songwriting where, if a song works by just sitting down and singing it with an acoustic guitar or piano, then it is likely to work in a band environment. This time the approach was much the same but we decided that each song had to have a certain amount of energy to it, and the acoustic guitar probably needed to have a big fat distortion pedal attached to it.

BULLSHEET (JCU Townsville campus)

What is your main inspiration for the Finger's music and your new album, and what is your reply to critics and fans alike that believe your new album Vulture Street to be a step back in Powderfinger's progression as a group? By Brendan Hughes

BF: My response is that everyone is entitled to their opinion but I can't help it if they are wrong.

BULLSHEET (JCU Townsville campus)

With the release of the new album Vulture Street, what is next for Powderfinger? Is a sixth album already in the pipeline or is the lead singer going to do the American thing and launch his own singing career? By



Brendan Hughes
BF: Yeah I think I might move to Atlanta and become an R&B artist. So the next album will probably have to wait until I've launched my hugely successful American career.

GROK / PERTH UNI
What do you prefer your fans to do at your gigs? - moshing, just standing and listening or sitting? By Seb Joll

BF: Sitting down holding hands - no, not really doing what ever they want as long as they are enjoying themselves.

QUT Utopia Magazine
If you were not in music, what do you think you would be doing instead? By Kristy Mitchell

BF: Formula One Racing, Professional surfer, Heavy weight boxer, working at Coles... Not sure really.

DELI RRA (Darwin Uni)
Who is your favourite band - ever?
BF: The Jimi Hendrix Experience.

BULLSHEET (JCU Townsville campus)
Which concert stands out above all others? Matthew Morgan and Siri Nakstad
BF: None - I get totally vibed from every gig that we do.

BULLSHEET (JCU Townsville campus)
Which is his favourite? AFL or rugby league? By Kacey Sinardi
BF: Equal. I love the lions and love seeing Queensland WIN - in other words seeing the Blues go down..

GROK / PERTH UNI
With all those great songs under your belts, are you looking at releasing a 'Best

Of' album in the future? By Chloe Rogerson
BF: I have always been a bit sus on greatest hits, but in saying that I think we can do a good job of it, having more input than other artists who sometimes lose control. But it's great to have enough material to make a good Greatest Hits, so yes I am looking forward to that day.

QUT Utopia Magazine
From a young age did you know that you would be headed in a musical direction? By Kristy Mitchell
BF: Not at all, I wanted to be a Formula One Driver, A Top Gun Pilot, then a Graphic Artist, but then I met a couple of idiots at school, one being Hoggy our guitarist. I thought then this music thing might be cool - I'll give it a go.

DELI RRA (Darwin Uni)
When you visit Darwin, are you going to see the jumping crocodiles?
BF: Jumping Crocodiles...? Sounds like a croc of shit to me.

BULLSHEET (JCU Cairns campus)
Is there a difference in the crowds between Australia and overseas? Matthew Morgan and Siri Nakstad
BF: Yes for us there is because we are bigger here, so the response always feels better. Aussies also aren't afraid of goin' off.

BULLSHEET (JCU Townsville campus)
Who is your favourite? Billy Joel or Elton John? By Kacey Sinardi
BF: Sorry to say it but I can't stand Billy Joel. So it would have to be Elton John.

GROK / PERTH UNI
What do you think about

commercial radio stations playing your music ie. being picked up by commercial radio? By Seb Joll
BF: I'm fine with it, after a while you realise that what's important is that your music is out there for people to hear and relate to. Via 'Commercial Radio'??...not the worst thing in the world....

QUT Utopia Magazine
If tomorrow was your last day alive, what would you do? By Jennifer Cutler
BF: Eat, drink, try and write something inspiring, take a picture of myself, give my guitars to my brothers, and call my folks and tell them that I love them. Quite an odd question that one...

DELI RRA (Darwin Uni)
Do you have a favourite world political leader?
BF: The Dalia Lama, a great man.

WORONI (ANU)
When you think about the future, how do you feel? By Ben May.
BF: Worried for humanity, and the planet. If we don't slow down and become a little less greedy, we are in trouble. It is a very deep problem with many relative issues. Sit me down with a beer and a few hours and I'd love to chat about it.

ENTROPY (University of Adelaide)
When you travels overseas and into different cultures, does it make the identity of being Australian clearer? What in your opinion encapsulated being Australian? Can you hear or see a uniqueness in the "oz rock sound" coming out of Australia when you compare it to that of the music from different

countries? By Simon Cheers
BF: ...not really. The 'Identity' is more an awareness of where we live, and how good we have it here. The potential of this country is enormous, whether we find the 'right' path is another question. 'Being Australian?' I'd like to think an open mindedness to all people/cultures, environmental protection, and new less taxing resourcefulness on energy supplies. I'd like to think we have the opportunity to think forwardly and act that way too...

BULLSHEET (JCU Cairns campus)
On your website it states: "Powderfinger are the most successful Australian rock band of the past decade." Do you find this puts pressure on you to put out really good albums everytime, or does it all just come naturally? Matthew Morgan and Siri Nakstad
BF: The only pressure we really take on is from within, to improve, write better songs, get emotion through songs... we are pretty good at shutting out outside pressures.

POWDERFINGER - LIVE ON VULTURE STREET

Sunday 14th December
- Royal Theatre Canberra
- SOLD OUT

Monday 15th Dec- Royal Theatre Canberra - TIX ON SALE NOW (all ages / licensed - G.A and reserved seating) Tickets from Ticketek (Ph Bookings 02 6219 6666) www.ticketek.com.au

POWDERFINGER
VULTURE STREET

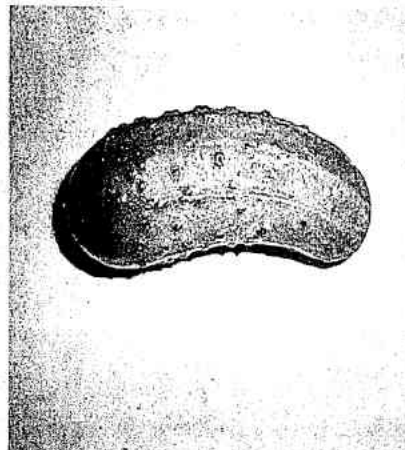


THE LAST ONE, THANK GOD

November 2003 - Providing a description for every issue, and through it, maintaining a running joke that became tired after 2 issues.



Marco Polo just wants to be left alone.



Person Wants Fries, Eats Pickle

Person Takes Phrase Too Far; Breaks Person's Leg

Melbourne: A leisurely send off turned disastrous last night, when James Gintos, of Moorabbin, ended up in hospital following an altercation with his friend Michael Gifton, of Brunswick. According to witnesses who were watching covertly through the window of the house where the two men were at the time, Gifton wished Gintos good luck, in reference to his upcoming Victorian Athletics Championships' marathon race, and then, feeling actions speak louder than words, hit him in the leg with a cricket bat, breaking it in two places, and his leg in three.

Mr. Gintos, who was in a serious but stable condition last night in Monash hospital, was philosophical about the situation; "Sure, it means my sporting career is over, but Michael only had the best of intentions," he said.

Number of Humorous

Observations About Rugby Condensed Into One Article

There has been a sensation in the Rugby World Cup when the match between Georgia and Namibia resulted in a 30-8 score line, the closest match in the tournament since its inception in 1987. The excitement at this amazing occurrence was further compounded when someone in the stadium knew the rules to the game. The knowledgeable player, Australian centre Elton Flatley, explained the amazing circumstance; "I really thought one of us should learn the rules eventually," he said. "So I rang up William Webb Ellis and he explained them to me. Now, when I tell the rest of the team, we can stop just kicking the ball out all the time and actually play."

PM Gives Away Daughter

Prime Minister John Howard has given away his daughter Melanie in a lavish ceremony in a Sydney church this month, just weeks after she was married in a ceremony at the same church.

According to an unnamed source, Melanie Howard didn't want to go through with the activity, but the Howard Government's new gifting laws mean Mr. Howard's actions will reduce his tax bill by over \$100,000 this financial year. Mr. Howard's financial aide, Maria Foggarty, said Ms. Howard would not feel much pain as a result of the giving away.

Melanie Howard, just weeks before she disappeared as a result of John Howard's new gifting laws.

Baby Receives Toy, For Crying Out Loud

Brisbane - A baby has received a toy, for crying out loud, from his mother yesterday, in a display of the most efficient way to get things when one can't talk. The baby, who doesn't want to be named says he will try to next get some chocolate from giving his mother the intangible item goodness sake.



New Name For Potential Share Float

The possible next stage of the privatisation of Telstra, governed by a Bill due to be reintroduced into the Senate this week, has been renamed, it was announced by the Federal Minister for Communications, Daryl Williams, yesterday. In a bid to increase the company's fortunes and hot on the heels of the success of the movie Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines, the third stockmarket tranche of the national telecommunication carrier has been renamed T3: Rise of the Share Price. Mr. Williams himself was enthusiastic about the naming; "Look what's happened to Arnie since T3," he said. "That's what's going to happen to Telstra, just in a more financially increasing manner."

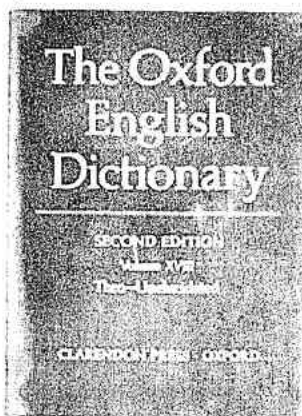
Critics Hail New Oxford Dictionary as Definitive

Critics have hailed the new Oxford English dictionary released today at a premiere in New York, saying it is truly definitive of the times, and words.

Janice Milin, of the Dictionary Criticism Group, said she had too much time on her hands, and while she usually criticised dictionaries for their know-it-all attitude, the new Oxford Dictionary was really definitive of the times;

"I looked up 'times,' she said, "and there was a definition right there. Other words were defined as well, such as 'ptomaine' and 'huggermugger'. It really is very exciting."

A book with the same title as the one in question, but which is a lot older and hence not as definitive, according to people who have too much time on their hands.



Sudan Insults Prevalent Religion

The month-long Muslim religious holy month of Ramadan will be extended to February in the drought and famine-ravaged sub-Saharan country of Sudan so people have an excuse for not eating between sunrise and sunset, leaving just 10 hours a day when they have to face the fact that there is no food and their impending fate, according to a report released on Tuesday. A spokesperson for the Sudanese government, Nbekito Mlina, who has moved from Inland South North Congo (now known by another name) since the first issue of Woroni, said this move may be followed by an even more insulting one, with the invention of a religion which prevented eating during non-daylight hours.

Teen Girl claims that she never watches Australian Idol: Bullied

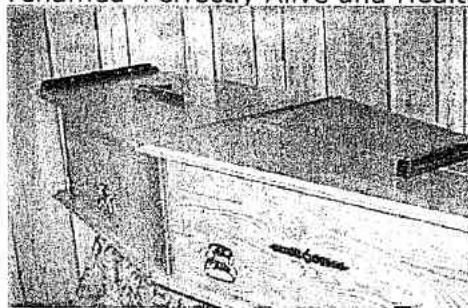
Melissa Chunder, 14, from Kaleen, ACT was recently a victim of bullying when she admitted to her schoolyard playmates that she has never watched Australian Idol. A nationwide epidemic of Australian Idol related peer pressure has been reported. At Melissa's school in Northern Canberra the teachers have noted that students who do not watch the show have been forced to perform a touchdown and surrender any blng-bling on their person.

White Lady Funerals Realises Name Morbid
Funeral proprietor White Lady Funerals has yesterday realised after 50 years in operation that their name is grossly morbid and that people don't need a literal description of death to realise what a funeral company does.

Spokesperson for White Lady Funerals, who is also the owner, Lady White, said the decision to name the company was made at a time when literal names were all the rage;

"The owner and chief operating officer at the time, me, felt that 'White Lady Funerals' was preferable to other choices, such as 'Disfigured and Decapitated Lady Funerals.'

Lady White continued to say the company would be renamed 'Perfectly Alive and Healthy Lady Funerals.'



The business White Lady/Perfectly Alive and Healthy Lady Funerals are in - coffin display.

Hand Amputee Paradoxically Able to Count Friends on One Hand, Therefore Lucky

Perth - Perth man Howard Tang, who lives in Perth, is paradoxically able to count his friends, who may also live in Perth, on one hand, despite having no hands. Mr. Tang, who has been handless since a sawmilling accident 10 years ago, when, during a break from milling, his friend drove over his arms, is thought to be unique in the world, a situation brought about by the fact he has no friends. Due to this, he is considered extremely lucky, despite his desperate loneliness and disability.

Brief Concise News Condensed Shortly:

- Gander Requires Different Sauce
- Students Realise Powering ANU Green Cars With Electricity Doesn't Actually Save Environment
- Person Reads This Now
- Homeless People Slow To Take Up 3-G Mobile Phones
- Sportsperson Bags Team-Mate, Coach

Killer Disease Doesn't Start With Flu-Like Symptoms
The debilitating and deathly disease Allitromaim took a deadly hold across southern Asia this week, helped by the fact it didn't start with a cold and headache, as all other deadly pandemics have done. The virus which is believed to have originated in some squalid hell hole in Asia instead begins with deathly convulsions and liquefying organs that give victims a false sense of security.

One of the victims, Bill Brothman, was unable to comment due to his death but another, Margaret Jensen, was also dead.

WAIT.....

I know you normally just read these pages and then burn the rest of Woroni but not this issue - just turn the page for more.

Bloke Changes Name....Again Toilet Paper Ad Doesn't Feature Dogs

After years of confusion, Greens Senator Bob Brown has submitted to public pressure and changed his name to Bob Green, it was announced in a statement yesterday. The move was in keeping with party policy, which dictates each Greens Senator must have a name related to the environment, which will next week result in fellow Greens Senator Kerry Nettle changing her first name to Stinging.

While Senator Brown/Green said the change, suggested by party members, will result in a lot less confusion for the Greens low-intelligence voters, he was not too happy with another name suggestion by members, namely Bob Bush, which caused him to start ranting maniacally and led to his removal from the place in which he was situated at the time.

Just as there was there was controversy over a shampoo advertising campaign last month, this month there is controversy as advertisement executives realised that having dogs using toilet paper, often to play logic games, on every toilet paper advertisement is stupid, particularly as they don't care about hygiene in any way,

Joseph Broughton, principal with McMahon, Frinkel, Simpson and Broughton Toilet Paper Advertisers said the change would be difficult to adjust to, and that he was annoyed his name was last in the title of his firm;

"We're thinking of depicting pigs using the toilet paper to decorate some kind of ballroom, while playing noughts and crosses with it. That, or people sitting on the toilet wiping their bum," he said.

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PIZZERIA

HOUSE OF PIZZA

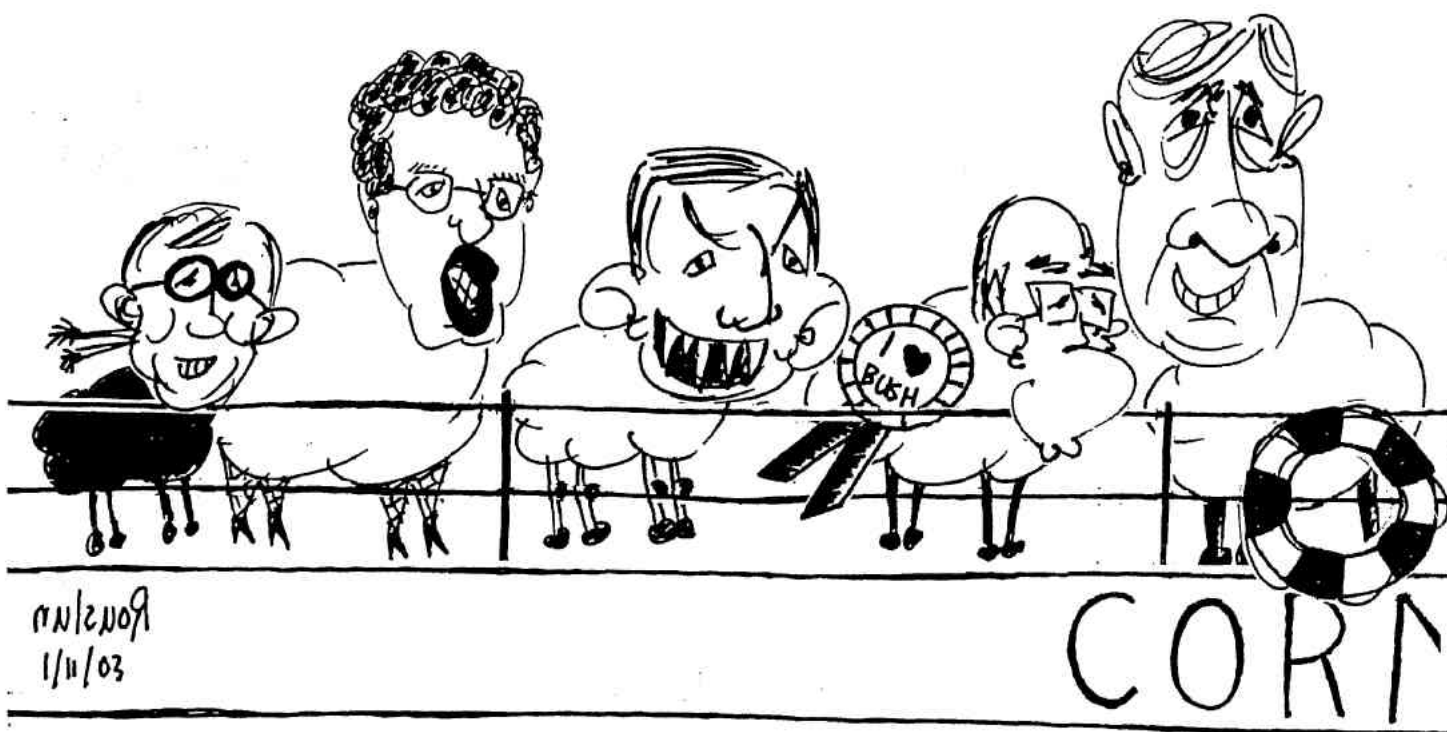
Geroma Place

- if you haven't before,
there's no time
like

NOW

Historical Woroni - 1969

With sophisticated, new and exciting ads such as these, who wouldn't buy new and exciting clothes for men, and pizza, right NOW.



1/11/03

A few of Australia's 50 000 unwanted sheep.

Chaos and Pandemonium Caused by Something, Possibly Synonym

Woroni Office - There was uproar today when it was learned the word 'uproar' had been used 34, make that 35, times this year in Woroni, to describe the consequences of basically everything. This clever repetition didn't go unnoticed by all, in fact it was noticed by some, including one, Amanda Friton. "I felt the satire this year was getting a bit repetitive," she said. "I thought it was because only one person wrote it and he used the same principles behind every issue, but the use of this word must be the reason. Despite its overuse, the articles it was in really did give me some uproarious laughter this year."

Nike Sales Conform to Demand Curve; Doesn't Happen Yesterday

Nike has released their last ridiculously-priced shoe, the AirSport Exercise Jordan Woods onto the market this week, starting with stores in New York and Washington DC. Sales for the first few days were disappointing, due to the ridiculous \$100 price tag and the \$900 shoes the price tag was attached to, which is particularly meritorious, as it is the first time Nike's have obeyed the downwards-sloping demand curve, which dictates ridiculously high prices do not justify high sales. The manufacturers of the shoes, Thai sweatshop workers, said a number of things which the company paid this reporter to not report, while a spokesperson for Nike, despite their designated role, was too shocked to spokes.

A pair of the ridiculously-priced shoes that finally showed Nike they can't make tens of billions of dollars from sweatshops, just \$35 billion.



Emphasis of Ease of Payments Doesn't Make Them Any Easier

Mother of two Sandra Mandant was dismayed yesterday when she found the emphasis on the ease of the payments she had to make on the abroller she purchased from Danoz Direct didn't actually mean the payments were any easier to make. "I was told I had to pay for it with just three easy payments," Sandra said, "but they've been nothing but easy. Just because I'm unemployed and sit at home all day, why should John Abdoer lie to me?" Sandra confirmed her idiocy when she continued talking; "Well, I shouldn't worry," she said. "The payments for the Abroller I just purchased are not just easy, they're simple, apparently."

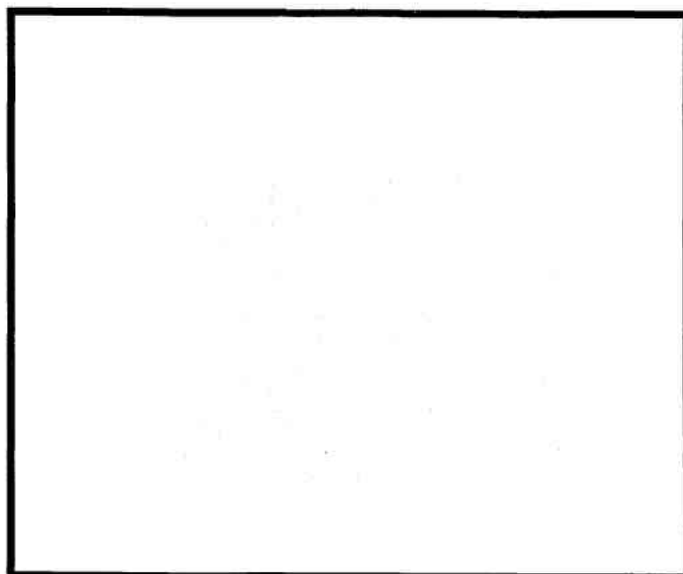
Person Doesn't Intend Pun

There was uproar on one of the days last week, which continued for one of the weeks last month when Jennifer Porter didn't intend a pun, despite the insistence of her, and many other people, that it happens commonly. The fateful moment came during a discussion with her friends, who didn't want to be identified, when she was discussing the above offensive article, strangely before it was published;

"Those people suffering from famine in the Sudan should all die. Ha, ha, ha, ha," she said. "Now onto something more tasteful, I was really think..", at which point her friends interrupted her and she was able to honestly say 'no pun intended.'

Professor of Linguistics at Melbourne University, Linda Cromlin, was consulted for an opinion on this event, which she gave.

"This occurrence was a one-in-a-thousand-year event," she said, "and won't happen again for thousands of years, woops, ha ha ha, no pun intended."



The pun in question. Note: As a pun is intangible, it is probably not the best choice to place a picture with this article.

James Wright Intelligible

Physician James Wright created a stir when people realised his new advertisement for the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme was intelligible when it was first screened yesterday. The advertisement, which is a break from the usual ads which show Mr. Wright droning on, talking about something to do with medicine, is going to be a winner, predicts the thing that authorised it, the Commonwealth Government.

Mr. Wright, who apparently can understand himself, gave an interview on Monday to deal with the commotion he caused; "Va TBS vid vot ta no vla took," he said, which was translated to mean that although he is in favour of a reduced PBS, PBS subsidised speech therapy drugs and antihistamines should be increased.



TACKLE

exams head on

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SECOND SEMESTER				
21 July – 23 Nov				
Monday – Thursday	8.30am – 11pm	8.30am – 9pm	8.30am – 9pm	9am – 6pm
Friday	8.30am – 6pm	8.30am – 5pm	8.30am – 5pm	9am – 5pm
Saturday	1pm – 5pm	1pm – 5pm	1pm – 5pm	closed
Sunday	1pm – 10pm	1pm – 5pm	1pm – 5pm	1pm – 5pm
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The Fast Show



The other day, my friend bought what I consider to be hilarity in dvd form: The Fast Show series one. That's right. Every single sketch from the first series on one glorious, rolling-about-on-the-floor-laughing-with-tears-streaming-down-your-face shiny silver disc. All the characters you've come to know and love from the Channel 9 news team to Ralph and Ted and the "You ain't seen me, right?" guy. Pure bliss.

For those readers who, sadly, do not have a clue what I am talking about and are yet to experience this ultra-quirky chuckle fest, I should explain. The Fast Show is a sketch show which could be ranked somewhere in between the pure madness and hilarity of Monty Python and the not-sure-when-to-laugh oddity of The League of Gentlemen. (Obviously I can't stray far from the realms of geeky British television in terms of explaining it, I apologise.)

What makes The Fast Show undeniably better than so many other one-season-wonder sketch shows is its refusal to pad out the time between good sketches with dull, experimental ones. It's obvious the writers love all their characters dearly and each running joke accumulates funniness with each episode (one advantage of having all the episodes recorded together).

My absolute favourite part of the show would have to be *Ralph and Ted*, less a sketch than a storyline that runs throughout The Fast Show. Ralph lives alone in a huge English manor, and is hopelessly in love with Ted, his gardener. The obvious social differences between the two and the blundering sweetness of Ralph attempts to get Ted to notice him make for much amusement, cringing,

and utterances of "aaawwwww!"

The reason it's called "The Fast Show" is that it is just that: fast. The idea which creators Charlie Higson and Paul Whitehouse started with was to bring on the funny as quickly as possible, then immediately move on to the next sketch. That way, if you're not a fan of a particular joke, you always know you'll be on to the next one in no time at all. This is not to say the show moves so fast that the characters barely have time to say their lines, they *are* given room to breathe.

The result is quite different from most sketch shows before or since, and a lot more entertaining. The humour is extremely character driven, and relies on catchphrases, so when watching it for the first time you may find yourself wondering why everyone else in the room is laughing just because someone said the word "nice." All will become clear, I assure you.

The quality of the acting is also much better than had been seen in the genre for a long time. Take it from Johnny Depp, who referred to Paul Whitehouse as "the greatest actor of all time." All the actors become their characters to the point where it would be surreal for them to appear out of the context of the show.

If you haven't seen it yet, buy it, seriously (I was not paid by the BBC to write this article). If you have any interest in eccentric British comedy you will not regret it.

Go Fish

There are some films you enjoy momentarily and forget as soon as the credits end. Some stay with you and colour the way you think for a time, only to be left behind as you move on to something new and better. Then there are those films that shape lives, things to be held on to and appreciated again and again. I'm sure all lovers of film have at least one of these treasures, stowed away in the video cabinet or proudly bought on dvd. For me, obviously, that film is *Go Fish*.

It might seem strange to some that I am classifying *Go Fish*, a film made by two young, relatively inexperienced filmmakers, in this last category. The actors forget their lines, it has but the simplest of storylines and is at times painfully self-conscious. But to me, this is a film which, from the first notes of the soundtrack to the last thank you at the end of the credits, is completely sublime.

The film opens in a women's studies classroom, with the students making a list of "lesbians or want to be lesbians." "Eve," they volunteer, or "the entire cast of *Roseanne*" (while it's not exactly timeless, *Go Fish* is an interesting exercise in mid-nineties pop culture). Then one student pipes up "why are we even making this list? It's completely speculation." Their (black, lesbian) teacher replies "Throughout lesbian history, there has been a serious lack of evidence that will tell us what these women's lives were truly about. And it's with that in mind and understanding the meaning, and the power of history, that we begin to want to change history."

Obvious from the outset is that *Go Fish* was made long (a whole nine years - how time flies in the evolution of the queer world) before the lipstick lesbian became

acceptable or desirable, before the Britney/Madonna kiss and loong before *Queer Eye* for the Straight Guy. *Go Fish* was made in a time when being gay or bi was not quite as hip as it is today. Parents were kept in the dark, and the battle lines between gay and straight, male and female society were drawn deep in the sociological sand. *Go Fish* set out to change this, to change a history of secrecy and oppression, and bring lesbian lives out of the closet once and for all.

Political ramifications aside, *Go Fish* is, as you might expect, a lesbian love story. Our protagonist is Max (played by Guin Turner), a young, literary-minded girl impatient to fall in love. When Mrs Right does turn up, Max is initially blinded by her pre-conceived ideas of the "ideal girlfriend", and the story that ensues is both entertaining and thought-provoking. As well as being your basic, girl meets girl art house film, *Go Fish* works on all sorts of other issues, becoming a sort of dictionary of queerness. The lives of the characters take in everything from problems with parents, ex-boyfriends and "lesbian bed death", to more serious questions such as the representation of gays in the community and just what exactly fits into the word "lesbian" (to which there are as many answers as there are characters).

Despite its roughness around the edges, *Go Fish* was hailed as the first truly art house hit at the 1994 Sundance film festival. (Bonus queer film fact: legend has it that at this very film festival Kevin Smith fell in love with Guin Turner, who of course did not return his affections, thus inspiring the ever-popular Smith film *Chasing Amy*.) It is at once a crash-course in indie/art-house filmmaking and a guide to lesbian life and love.



EVERYONE'S A CRITIK

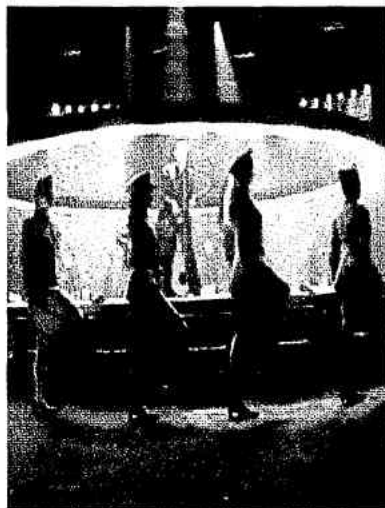


Muse - Absolution Sam Lonard

Album wise, 2003 has been somewhat of a year of surprises. We've had Evan Dando's tragically underrated solo debut 'Baby I'm Bored', the soothing layers of Cat Power's 'You Are Free', and now this, the somewhat forgotten third album of British under-achievers Muse. From the very beginning, Muse have aimed high, but it hasn't always come off. On their debut album 'Showbiz', they simply didn't have the experience to pull off their towering aspirations. On parts of their sophomore effort 'Origin of Symmetry', the world began to see the potential of Muse, though the majority of songs became lost under synth and the album as a whole lacked scope. This time round, however, Muse have surpassed all expectations. Where most bands these days are going for a more stripped back sound, 'Absolution' packs in about as many layers and changes that a band possibly can, and surprisingly, it leaves the album feeling very rich and refreshing. The album starts off with the thundering ferocity of 'Apocalypse Please', and rarely lets up through all 14 songs, though the quieter songs like 'Falling Away With You' and 'Blackout' tend to lag a bit in comparison to the rest of the album.



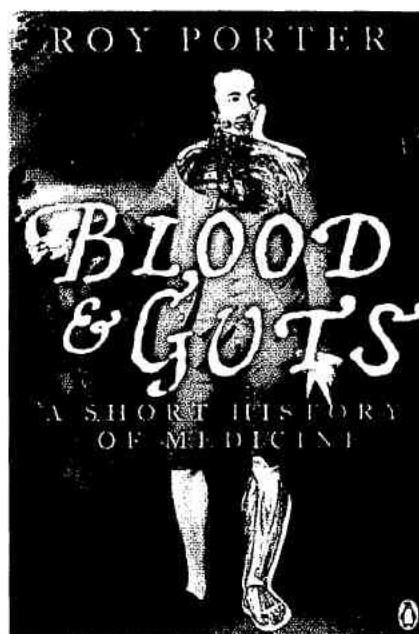
Although only clocking in at around 5 minutes, 'Butterflies & Hurricanes', which skips too and fro from sporadic piano solos to epic breakdowns, possesses the qualities of a great epic, and provides the highlight of the album. Bellamy and the boys have a new found confidence, and it shows. This is bigger, bolder and better than anything Muse have ever done before, and it deserves to be up there amongst the albums of the year.



March On: It's impossible not to fall into line with Muse's new rocking album

Roy Porter - Blood & Guts: a shorter history of medicine Penguin Press Lucy Clynes

Roy Porter is a revolutionary in the movement to 'sex up' science that's currently sweeping the world. Just like Dr Karl or The Human Body, Roy Porter's attempt was surprisingly successful. It's not just a gory interesting cover, this book has real substance, real guts. There's a chapter on everything from plagues that make your pores exude pus to surgery performed by someone who also doubles as the local butcher. He draws on some fascinating sources such as the diary entry of a woman who had a mastectomy without anaesthetic. He details common practices such as murders committed to obtain corpses to study anatomy. It's the sort of book you can read section by section and there's an index for those who won't skip the parts on the public health system and go straight to finding out exactly why and how forceps revolutionised childbirth. Porter's writing style is dry and sometimes overly factual and at points it looks like he's trying to prove just how much research he's done. None the less, Blood & Guts was horrible and scary and like a child driving past a car crash, I just couldn't look away.



Rolf: 'Nuff said

Kill Bill: Volume I

Director: Quentin Tarantino
Review by Thom Mackey

Kill Bill is a film that has a fairly narrow appeal. If you liked Tarantino's other films then you've probably already seen this one, and been impressed by the incredible cinematography, not-too-shabby acting and brilliant subtle, tongue-in-cheek homages to B-movies. If you aren't a fan, and all you've done is read reviews, then you won't have seen it because of how enormously violent and gory it is. Well - I saw it because I'm a fan of Tarantino and B-Movies, and I had heard that it was enormously violent and gory but it didn't put me off that much - and thank god it didn't. Kill Bill is an excellent film, one of the best I've seen for a long time, because of all the things that I said before. Granted, the acting is a bit iffy, especially if you have any idea of what Japanese is supposed to sound like (Uma obviously doesn't), and the plot isn't the most imaginative thing ever, but that was on purpose so it's okay. Everything else about the film, though, is brilliant.

The cinematography and the directing, the editing and the scripting, all are extremely well done and come together into a really effective and cohesive whole that carries its sarcastically poignant message very, very well. I suppose it's violent, but anyone who's ever seen any anime will immediately recognise the cartoon-like blood vortexes as nothing even remotely connected to reality. I would heartily recommend this film, even if you just shut your eyes for the gory bits.



Japanese Story

Director: Sue Brooks
Review by Zak McCracken

Japanese Story has already been reviewed to death, and by the time you're reading this it might even be finished at the cinemas, but that doesn't mean we can't try and get our say in. I went to see this film knowing it was supposed to be very good, very well acted, incredibly beautiful and moving. They were all right, it's true - it's an incredibly beautiful film - but what they didn't mention was the Second Half. I had heard about this mysterious Second Half which was supposed to change the whole thing, make it more than just a road movie character study blah blah, but what they also forgot to mention is that it raises the shots of Toni Colette crying by about 400%. While it was very powerful, I couldn't help but think that if they'd cut off another 20 minutes off the end it would have been a much more effective film. Personally I found it to be rather predictable, this mysterious Second Half, although maybe it's only because I'd heard them talking about it in such hushed tones. Ooh, don't tell them about the Second Half, said David and Margaret, it'll ruin the whole movie. Well, listen you guys, yes it would ruin the whole movie but it also means you can only review half of it - in my opinion, the much better half. Could this tactic of providing a markedly different change of tack in the second half be a very clever ploy by the filmmakers to prevent the somewhat inferior part of the film from being reviewed? Well, bugger that you crafty ladies. While it doesn't make the film terrible - it was still very well pulled off, and it remains a powerful story communicating a wide range of profound and intense emotions, the Second Half kinda dilutes the impact to the point of "come on, get over it already." Worthwhile, but the Second Half that they can't talk about - while only making the film more brilliant for the first little while - takes it down a notch.





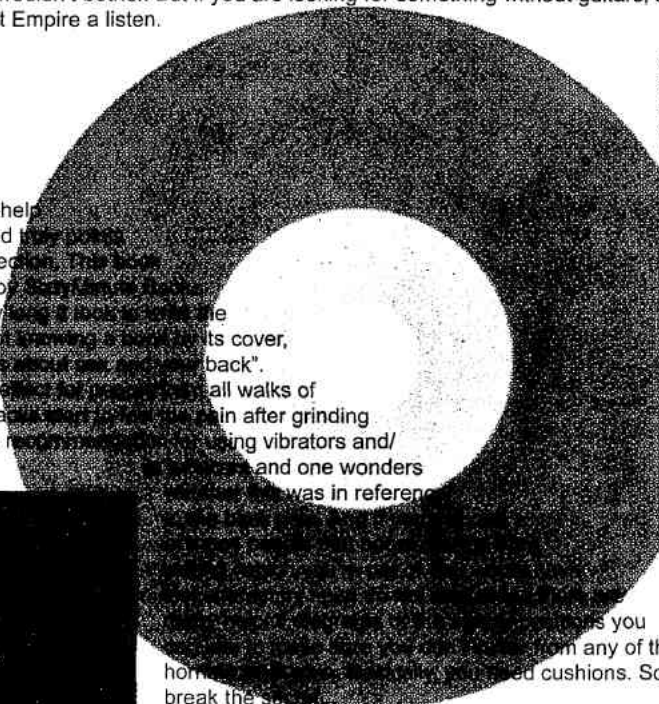
The Cat Empire - Self Titled
Adam Brodie-McKenzie

You know how there seems to be a trend of saying that a band is a hybrid of jazz, funk, hip-hop, dance etc. etc. Well believe it or not but this band actually is all those things. The Cat Empire started as a three piece jazz group touring around Melbourne clubs and evolved into the six piece core that it is now. That being said, if there is a need for a bigger brass section they are not afraid to bring in their aptly named Empire Horns. It is amazing when a band is able to play all different styles of music but still make them truly unique (although in The Cat Empire's case there are no guitars, except for "Nothing" and it is definitely not rock music). Really, this uniqueness is born mainly from the vocals. At first I wasn't really sure what to make of it. I mean the instruments are amazing with all musicians evidently being masters of their craft. However, the vocals are a mix of Jamaican Reggae and Australian hip-hop. The latter I have never been a fan of. Nevertheless, the more I listened the more it grew on me and now I can't stop playing the bloody album. The songs do truly vary, ranging from "The Rhythm", where it is impossible not to sway your hips to the samba rhythms, to the cool blues epic of "All that talking". You can't even really classify each song to a genre with songs like "Beanni", where it swaps and changes between hip-hop and jazz, and "The Wine Song" where it begins as a soulful, thoughtful piano piece and whirls its way into making you feel like you're at a bar mitzvah or some Mediterranean festival. There are a number of reasons why I shouldn't like this

album. Hip-hop being one. Also I don't generally like songs about specific cities, but "The Crowd", which discusses breaking free in Melbourne, is definitely an exception. For some reason they are just that good. It may take some time getting used to and if you don't like jazz, as that is the really the roots to all their songs, I wouldn't bother. But if you are looking for something without guitars, a bit different and something that is just plain smooth and cool give The Cat Empire a listen.

Great Sex with a Bad Back - Joseph Ross
Adam Brodie-McKenzie

Every now and then there is a self-help book that is personally cathartic and helps you yourself and society in the right direction. This book is not one of those. It is published by [unclear] which is probably in relation to how [unclear] the thing. Definitely the exception to not [unclear] its cover, as the blurb suggests, "This book is [unclear] back". Evidently it could have a profound effect on all walks of life, particularly students as their backs [unclear] in after grinding away for hours. In fact there is one [unclear] vibrating vibrators and/ [unclear] and one wonders [unclear] was in referenc



All hail King Pussy of the Cat Empire



...s you
...m any of that
...ed cushions. Sorry to
break the so



Doves...excuse the pun

Doves - Lost Sides
Dominik Krupininski

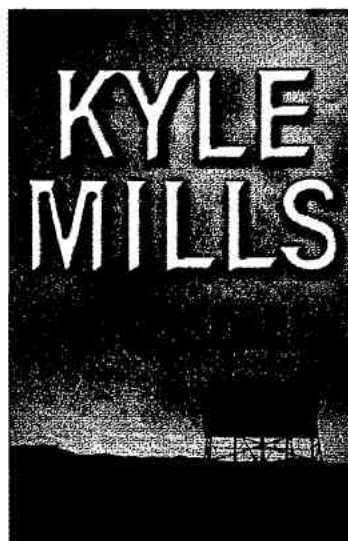
Sometimes I feel like Richie Tenenbaum and a girl on the 38 is my Margot but I'm too scared to say hi. This album is a good way to pass the time when she's not on the bus. It's Doves, so it's atmospheric and evocative and all those music industry words; it's a b-side collection so it doesn't really hang together; but there are moments like 'darker' that are better than most of the songs on their 'proper' albums, and thankfully bereft of oboes. If you like Doves, or headphones, then you'll like Lost Sides. It's really not like the Tenenbaums at all. It's alternatively more grinding than Last Broadcast and more loose, but it's the first CD that *Woroni* has had sent its way that hasn't sucked for me this year.



doves
lost sides

Kyle Mills - Smokescreen
Hodder & Soughton
Tom Smyth

Smokescreen is a vapid, vacuous work that gives trash a bad name. Even in the places where it's comprehensible, the plot is so wildly unbelievable as to be rendered utterly ineffectual. The questionable narration gains absolutely nothing from its use of the first- person voice, and ultimately, sounds strangely contrived and not a little unnatural. Anyone, fictional or otherwise, who could describe themselves as '... a bit over six- foot four, with thick shoulders and a narrow, well defined waist... It was a physique that provoked lust, envy and intimidation... My light blond hair, sun- deprived skin and teeth that were overtly white...' does not get to be taken seriously. The writing itself is underscored by the kind of cringe-making rhetorical devices so dear to the hearts of the writers of C- grade cop shows. Aside from that, the characters are either unmistakable goodies or unmistakable baddies, eliminating those bothersome grey areas which so often plague authors and allowing the author's self- indulgence to be maintained in earnest. There is not nearly enough time spent on characterization, - had there been, this may have been a more balanced work. The characters' interactions and dialogue are completely without nuance. The obligatory love interest - between a tobacco executive *with a heart*, and an anti- tobacco lobbyist - provides an easy path to the kind of ill- conceived moralising which makes the work something more than an innocent pot- boiler, something less than a real book. At the end of the day, it's certainly *easy* enough to read- and possibly even as diverting as the X- men yearbook, so long as it isn't examined too closely. But whether you can suspend your belief to this degree for 349 pages is another question entirely.



Self-Checker: The next step in the extermination of human interaction

Terminator 5: The Chifley Library Self-Checker

The transition of the modern library into a cathedral of impersonal "service" has been completed. The new religion - electronic surveillance, bar-codes and beepers - holds sway. There are no more hand-written cards, no more friendly desk ladies, no more gruff bag-checkers. This is no longer a case of the rise of the machines. In our libraries, the machines are victorious. The mechanics of the Chifley library "self-checker" are relatively straightforward. A simple, friendly prompt asks that a student/staff card be put on the machine. When it registers a student/staff bar-code it invites that books be "swiped" through the system. This both "checks out the books" and neutralises the library's security system. If you don't do it properly then the library's alarm will go off. In this way, the machines project their dominance onto the human world. Commonsense would dictate that the books have been "checked out" but if the machine is not satisfied then the buzzer will sound. That buzzer is the mating call of the machine: justifying its existence and calling for more money. The librarian used to be the first and last point of interaction between students (customers) and staff (robots). For a law-student in 1990 there was no way to avoid ALL interaction with staff. While said law student could hide in tuts and never attend lectures they could not totally avoid contact with the librarian. The librarian was an interface between the student and the university. A very valuable interface. All this has changed. With the introduction of a robotic student-staff interface, a barrier has been crossed. The fleeting human relationships which have underpinned our academic traditions have been erased like so many bytes from a floppy disk. In this new age, the consequences for all life are as yet untested. Students of the ANU should be warned. The electronic tutor is not far away. Sound caution, the machines have triumphed.

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Ph: 62380385, Mobile: 0413 629744 or by email: transhumance_244@hotmail.com



Dear Doctor OK

Nobody really knows who he is or from where he operates. His alleged qualifications are largely a mystery. Dr OK is the problem-solving world's answer to Batman ... and his "Bruce Wayne" is Dan Crowe.

Dr Ok,

I wish to get your unique take on the scandal about civilians allegedly been told to dress as police officers to "make up numbers" during President Bush's recent visit. Why in God's name would this happen? Where were all the REAL police? And what was the deal with the rows of 6 foot high pot plants arranged at the front of every location the President visited?

Dazed and/or Confused,
Burgmann

A good question well raised, my young friend. As it so happens, the answer is right in front of you ... beneath your very nose in fact.

Ask yourself, "Why on earth would the AFP need to enlist the aid of mere civilians for such important duties?" The answer, of course, is because the real police were otherwise engaged. "Doing what?" I hear you ask "And that doesn't explain the pot plants!" ... or does it?

You see, the mysterious pot plants which appeared out the front of Parliament House and the War Memorial before just as quickly and mysteriously

disappearing were actually ... police officers! In an ingenious stroke, the powers that be at the AFP (hmmm, that rhymes ... might have to turn that into some sort of rap) stumbled upon the brilliant idea of disguising Canberra's finest as an overgrown shrubbery! Just imagine a terrorist sniper creeping up to what he or she thinks is a thoughtfully provided bit of cover in the form of a line of pot plants. He or she takes careful aim and is just about to pull the trigger when ... BAM! A stick in the eye from the pot plant which springs into life to make the arrest and save the day!

Dr OK,

Recently I was fortunate enough to be able to spend a day at the snow. My companions and I slightly mistimed our time of departure and, as a result, were at our destination for nearly an hour before the lifts opened. The area was entirely deserted and yet, as I ducked into the "little girl's room", I was confronted with a queue! There were more people in the women's toilets than there were moving about in the whole ski resort! Why, oh why, must the ladies' toilets inevitably be filled with ... patrons?!?

Snow Bunny, Curtin

I'm glad you've had the ... er ... balls ... to raise this issue, Ms Bunny. Of course, I'm assuming that you are a female. I should warn you that the answer to

your interesting question about the reason for the apparently disproportionate number of people in the women's toilets at any given time may well prove disturbing to you.

I'm afraid I must alert you to the fact that at least HALF of the "women" in the toilet at the time ... at any time, in fact ... are actually males. That's right, males! Since an extremely young age, boys are bewildered by the mysteries of women; of the female psyche, the female mindset, feminine desires and (this may come as a shock) some are even intrigued by the female form! The problem for boys and men is, of course, that answers to these questions are NEVER provided! Fathers don't know much, that's evident enough when Mother's Day comes around and yet another lame present is offered up. Boys are therefore left to their own devices to attempt to acquire answers to their vitally important questions. And what better place to do so, than in the ladies' toilets?

We all know the scenario; women (to the understanding of any male who watches television or the occasional movie) ALWAYS congregate in toilets to discuss things. By disguising themselves as females and infiltrating this most sacred of bastions, males hope to successfully stumble across the answers to their deepest, darkest questions. I expose this phenomenon not to alarm, but in the hope that by exposing it, the need for secrecy will discontinue.

Dr OK,

My problem is this; I love going to the movies with my girlfriend, but am constantly suffering from a recurring problem in this regard. For example, last weekend I took her to see "Pirates of the Caribbean", something which looked like a great action film. Problem was, as soon as we got out of the cinema, all she

could talk about was how Johnny Depp and Orlando Bloom were absolute "man-honies"! (Ed: Dr OK, I think we both know the plural is "men- honey") How am I meant to indulge in my love of going to the movies if each time the on-screen hero makes my girlfriend realise how aesthetically inadequate I am?!?!?

Can't Stack Up, Hackett

Ah, Can't Stack Up, you raise a tremendous issue!

Far too many of us, both men and women, fall short in some respects when it comes to our relationships without this fact being highlighted by male actors like those you mention and women like Cameron Diaz, J-Lo etc. The solution is surprisingly and effectively simple... "Finding Nemo".

Now, obviously there's only so many times you can go and see the same film, but consider this Disney animation about fish to be a benchmark, if you will. You see, even the lousiest partner amongst us "stacks up" reasonably well against a fish ... and an animated fish at that! Of course, if you are confronted with the disturbing situation that your partner IS more attracted to "Nemo" than s/he is to you, you are undoubtedly better off without him/her. Hmmm, I wonder what a person who is attracted to fish is called? "Piscexual", perhaps?



could talk

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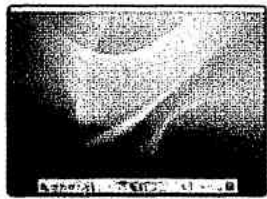
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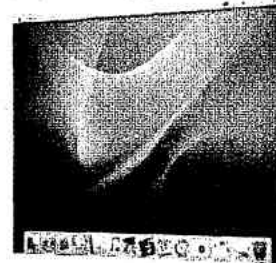
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